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A

T O U R


Through the ISLAND of
GREAT BRITAIN.

VOL. II.

LETTER I.

*Containing a DESCRIPTION of the North
Shores of the Counties of Cornwall and
Devon, and some Parts of Somersetshire,
Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Gloucestershire,
Buckinghamshire, and Berkshire.*

S I R,

 NOW turned about to the East; and
as, when I went West, I kept to the
Southern Coast of this long County of
Cornwall, and of *Devonshire* also, so, in
going East, I shall keep the North Shore.
The first Place of any Note, we came to, was *St. Ives*,
a pretty good Town, and grown rich by the Fish-
ing Trade. It is situated on the West-side of a deep
Bay,

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Bay, called *St. Ives-bay*, from the Town. This Bay is opposite, on the Land-side, to *Mount's-bay*, of which I spoke in Vol. I. p. 383. but it is filled up with Sands, and here is but very little Trade in any thing else but *Cornish Slate*.

It is a very pleasant View we have at *Madern-hills*, and the Plain by them, in the Way from the *Land's-end* to *St. Ives*; where we have a Prospect of the Ocean at the *Land's-end*, West; of the *British Channel* at *Mount's-bay*, South; and the *Bristol Chanel*, or *Severn Sea*, North. Near *St. Ives*, the Land between the Two Bays being not above Four or Five Miles over, is an Hill so situated, that upon it neither of the Two Seas are above Three Miles off, and very plain to be seen; and so likewise, in a clear Day, are the Islands of *Scilly*, tho' above 30 Miles off. *St. Ives* is a Borough-town, and sends Two Members to Parliament.

The Country from hence to *Padstow* is both fruitful and pleasant, and several Houses of Gentlemen are seen as we pass; the Sands also are very agreeable to the Eye, and to travel upon: among the Gentlemens Houses is *Lanhidrock*, the Seat of the Earls of *Radnor*, who are Barons of *Truro*, and were so, long before they obtained the Title of *Radnor*; also a good House belonging to the antient Family of *Trefusis*.

The Hills are fruitful of Tin, Copper, and Lead, all the Way on our Right-hand; the Product of which is carried all to the other Shore: so that we shall have little to say of it here. The chief Business on this Shore is the Herring-fishing: the Herrings about *October* come driving up the *Severn Sea*, and from the Coast of *Ireland*, in prodigious Shoals, and beat all upon this Coast as high as *Bidiford* and *Barnstable* in *Devonshire*; and are caught in great Quantities by the Fishermen, chiefly on Account of the Merchants of *Falmouth*, *Foy*, *Plymouth*, and other Ports on the South.

St. Michael's, or *Modishole*, a mean Portreve Borough, tho' it sends 2 Members to Parliament, is not now remarkable; but was of great Note in the *Saxon* Time, and has still a Market weekly, and a yearly Fair.

We then came to *St. Columb's*, a little Market-town, a Lordship belonging to the *Arundels* of *Wardour*; so called, to distinguish them from the *Arundels* of *Trerice* in this County; which Family, espousing the King's Side in the Civil Wars, suffered much, and was ennobled in *Charles II.*'s Time. The *Wardour* Family was likewise loyal, and suffered in the same Cause.

Near this Place is an Hill, which has a Rampire on the Summit of it, and a Causeway leading to it. 'Tis an old *Danish* Camp, and called *Castellum Danis*.

Padstow is a large Town, and stands on a very good Harbour for such Shipping as use the *Irish* Trade. The Harbour is the Mouth of the River *Camel*, or *Camal*, which, rising at *Camelford*, runs down by *Bodmyn* to *Wadbridge*, a little Town, where a large Stone Bridge, of about Eight Arches, is built, by the Contributions of the Country Gentlemen, at the Motion, and under the Direction, of one *Nicolas Lovibond*, Vicar of *Wadbridge*; the Passage over the River before being very dangerous, and having occasioned the Loss of some Lives, as well as Goods.

The Passage from this Town of *Padstow* to *Ireland* is said, by Writers, to be no more than 24 Hours; but this, if ever done, hath been so seldom, that it ought not to be mentioned as generally the Case: for I believe not one in 24 Ships makes its Voyage in so few Hours; and that they are oftener Five or Six Days in the Passage. Here is a very antient Seat, like a Castle, of a Family of the Name of *Prideaux*, the Chief of which, in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time, built this noble Seat.

Higher within the Land lies the Market and Borough-

rough-town of *Bodmyn*, formerly one of the Coining-towns of Tin, till it lost that Privilege to *Lestwithiel*: however, it still enjoys several Advantages, besides that of returning Members to Parliament, some of which are Tokens of its Antiquity. It is pretty large, and stands between Two Hills, in a good Air. It had antiently several Churches, of which now only one remains, which belonged to the Priory; and is, at present, the Parish-church. A kind of Carnival is kept here yearly, in *July*, whither great Numbers of People resort.

The Coinage-towns were, in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time, Four; namely,

<i>Leskard,</i>	} {	<i>Truro,</i>
<i>Lestwithiel,</i>		<i>Helfton.</i>

Since that, in King *James's* Time, was added *Pensance*.

Camelford is a mean, but antient Borough-town. Here the River *Camel* rises, which takes its Name from the *British* Word *Cam*, i. e. *crooked*. It has not either Church or Chapel in it, nor ever had. It is only remarkable, besides its returning Members to Parliament, for Two great Battles which were fought here; one between King *Arthur* and his Nephew *Mordred*; and the other between the *Britons* and *Saxons*.

The Borough of *Bossiney*, otherwise called *Trevena*, is but a small Village. It is famous for the splendid Ruins of an impregnable Castle, built on the Rock, which stood partly on the Continent, and partly on an Island, joined together by a Draw-bridge. The Castle was the Seat of the *British* Princes, and since of the Dukes of *Cornwall*: and, 'tis said, *Arthur* was born here, and died, in one of the above-mentioned Battles, near *Camelford*. This Place sends Two Members to Parliament; as does the next, to wit,

Launceston, which is a Corruption of the *British* Word *Lanstephadon*, i. e. *St. Stephen's* Church: it is a Market

and Borough-town, pretty neat, and is situate on a rising Ground, at the Extremity of the County, on the Borders of *Devonshire*. Great Part of it is very old, ragged, and decayed.

When *Richard* Earl of *Cornwall* had the Government of this County, this was a Frontier-town, well walled about, and fortified; and had also a noble Castle, which, from its Strength, was called *Castle Terrible*. The Inhabitants, for the Defence and Repair of it, held formerly the Land here by Castleguard,

Here the Lord *Hopton*'s good Fortune failed him, and he was forced by *Fairfax* to disband his Army.

Not far from hence is *Hengestone-hill*, which produces a great Plenty of *Cornish* Diamonds: here the *Cornish Britons* joined the *Danes*, to drive out the *Saxons* from *Devonshire*; but were totally defeated by *Egbert* in 831. which, 'tis conjectured, gives the Name of *Hengist* to this Hill, in Commemoration of their first Leader.

There is a fine Image or Figure of *Mary Magdalen*, upon the Tower of the Church at *Launceston*, to which the Papists fail not to pay Reverence, as they pass by. There is no Tin, Copper, or Lead, found hereabouts, as I could hear; nor any Manufacture in the Place. There are a pretty many Attorneys here, who manage Business for the rest of their Fraternity at the Assizes. As to Trade, it has not much to boast of; and yet there are People enough in it to excuse those who call it a populous Place.

Newport is a little Village adjoining, and was formerly Part of *Launceston*; and yet sends Two Members to Parliament: and indeed there are no less than 44 for the County; and the Number of Electors is so few, in many Places, that an Administration, of which Side soever it be, as to Party, has usually a great Reliance on the Elections in this County every new Parliament, in order to obtain a Majority in the House of Commons: for 44 Members from hence, and 45 from another Part

of the Island, who generally go one Way, make no small Figure in a Question. And, in this Case, it may not be improperly observed, that the Two Extremities of the Island, let the other Parts go as they will, are generally united in the same Way of Thinking, or at least of Acting, in all political Debates; and are likely to be so in all Times to come.

There is a long Nook of the County runs North from *Launceston*, called the *Hundred of Stratton*, in which there is one Market-town, named *Stratton*; but it has nothing in or about it worth remarking: yet once it had, in *Stow-house*, built by the Earl of *Bath* in the Reign of King *Charles II.* and, as to its Finishings within, not inferior to any in *England*. The Carvings, especially those of the Chapel, the grand Alcove, and some of the best Rooms, were done by the Hand of *Michael Chuke*; and were not to be excelled by *Gibbon* himself. The Landscapes and Seapieces, of which there were a great Number (particularly in the great Stairs, a Prospect of *Plymouth*, containing 22 Feet by 12), were the Work of *Vandeist*. The Situation of this stately Palace rendering it a disagreeable Habitation, the Owners disposed of the Materials; and it is now totally demolished. Near this Town, Sir *Ralph Hopton* defeated the Parliament-Forces under the Command of Major-General *Chudleigh*, and took him Prisoner; for which he was made Baron *Stratton*. 'Tis said, the Place where this Battle was fought produced a prodigious Crop of Barley, of 10 or 12 Ears on a Stalk, the next Year.

Not far from *Bodmyn* is to be seen the Set of monumental Stones, called *The Hurlers*; which, Dr. *Stukely* says, are, out of Doubt, Remains of an antient *Druid* Temple. Probably they are called by this Name, from the Game of Hurling, practised in these Parts; the Country-people giving them that for want of a better: and indeed it is said, that they have

have a superstitious Notion, that they were once Men, who were transformed into Stones, for playing at this Sport on a *Sunday*. They are oblong, rude, unhewn Stones, pitched on one End upon the Ground. They stand on a Down in Three Circles, the Centres whereof are in a right Line, the middlemost Circle being the greatest.

Now I have mentioned the *Hurlers*, I must take the Opportunity to describe the *Hurling-Match*, for which the *Cornish* Men are so particularly famous, and which is one of their principal Recreations, tho' barbarous enough. A Silver Ball is generally the Prize, on these Occasions. The Match is made in different Manners; for sometimes the Challenge is by Twenty or Thirty Men on a Side, and no others are to interfere; at other times, when a great Number of People are assembled at a *Wake*, or *Church-ale*, the Word is given out *That* Johns, Wills, and Toms, *will oppose all other Names*; or, other times, *That* Eldest or Seconds *are against all* Younger Sons: and so the Ball is thrown up, and becomes the Property of that Party which carries it away to the Goal set for that Purpose.

But another kind of *Hurling* is, when an *Out-ball*, as they call it, is thrown up; and these Matches are generally made by Two or more neighbouring Gentlemen, who, at a Day agreed on, bring each of them the Men of Two, Three, or more Parishes: and the Goals are then set, perhaps, Four or Five Miles distant, at some Gentlemens Houses, Towns, or the like: and here nothing is said about matching in Number, or otherwise; but the Ball is thrown up, and a bloody Skirmish generally ensues. No Bushes, Briers, Bogs, Mud-pools, Rivers, or any other Impediments, hinder their Course; nor any Friendship, Relation, or former Obligation, in the least, abates their Fury. The Party prevailing generally presents the Ball to the Gentleman who brought them on, as a Trophy; and he, in Return, sets open his Cellar-doors, where they wash

away the Blood from their Noses, and apply a Balsam to their Bruises.

The Wrestling in *Cornwall* is, indeed, a much more manly and generous Exercise; and that Closure, which they call the *Cornish Hug*, has made them eminent in the Wrestling Ring all over *England*; as the *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* Men are, for their Dexterity at the Hand and Foot, and throwing up the Heels of their Adversary, without taking hold of him.

Passing the River *Tamar*, about Two Miles from *Launceston*, we enter the great County of *Devon*; and as it is in the most wild and barren Part of it, and where formerly Tin Mines were found, tho' now they are either quite exhausted, or not to be worked without more Charge than Profit, so we must expect it a little to resemble its neighbour County.

The River *Tamar* here abounds with fresh Salmon, which are so exceeding fat and good, that they are esteemed in both Counties above the Fish of the same Kind found in other Places; and the Quantity is so great, as supplies the Country in abundance. This is occasioned by the Mouth of the River being so very large, and the Water so deep for Two Leagues before it opens into *Plymouth Sound*, that the Fish have a secure Retreat in the salt Water for their Harbour and Shelter; and from thence they shoot up into the fresh Water, in vast Numbers, to cast their Spawn.

We ride but a few Miles in *Devonshire*, before we find a different Face, in several respects: As, 1. More People than in *Cornwall*: 2. Larger Towns: 3. The People all busy, and in full Employ upon their Manufactures.

At the uppermost and extreme Part of the County North-west, runs a large Promontory into the Sea beyond all the Land on either Side, whether of *Devonshire*, or of *Cornwall*: this they would fain have called *Hercules's Promontory*; but the honest Sailors, and,

and, after them, the plain Country-people, call it *Hartland Point*, or *Hearty Point*, from the Town of *Hartland*, which stands just within the Shore, and is situated on the utmost Edge of the County of *Devon*. It is a Market-town of good Resort, the People coming constantly to it out of *Cornwall*, the Fisher-boats of *Barnstable*, *Bidiford*, and the other Towns on the Coasts, lying often under the *Lee*, as they call it, of these Rocks, for Shelter from the South-west or South-east Winds; at which time the Seamen go on Shore here, and supply themselves with Provisions; nor is the Town unconcerned in that gainful Fishing-trade, which is carried on for the Herring on this Coast.

From this Point or Promontory, the Land falling away for some Miles, makes a Gulph or Bay, which reaching to the Head-land, or Point of *Barnstable* Haven, is called, from thence, *Barnstable* Bay. At the East-End of this Bay, the Rivers *Taw* and *Towridge* empty themselves at one Mouth: and it is very particular, that as Two Rivers join in one Chanel, so here are Two great trading Towns in one Port; a thing, which, as it is not usual, so I cannot say is an Advantage to either of them: for it naturally follows, that they rival one another, and lessen both; whereas, had they been joined together in one Town, or were it possible to join them, they would make the most considerable Town, or City rather, in all this Part of *England*.

These are the Towns of *Barnstable* and *Bidiford*, the first the most antient, and returning Members to Parliament; the last the most flourishing. The Harbour or River is, in its Entrance, the same to both; and when they part, the *Towridge* turns to the Right, or South-west, and the *Taw* to the South-east; yet they seem to be both so safe, so easy in the Chanel, so equally good with respect to Shipping, and so equidistant from the Sea, that neither Town complains of

the Bounty of the Sea to them, or their Situation by Land ; and yet, of late Years, the Town of *Bidiford* has flourished, and the Town of *Barnstable* rather declined.

Bidiford is a clean, well-built Town : the more antient Street, which lies next the River, is very pleasant, where is the Bridge, a very noble Quay, and the Custom-house : it is also very well built and populous, and fronts the River for above Three Quarters of a Mile : But, besides this, there is a new spacious Street which runs North and South, or rather North-west and South-east, a great Length, broad as the *High-street* of *Exeter*, well-built, and inhabited by considerable and wealthy Merchants, who traffick to most Parts of the World.

Here, as is to be seen in almost all the Market-towns of *Devonshire*, is a very large and well-finished Meeting-house ; and, by the Multitude of People which I saw come out of it, I thought all the Town had gone thither, and began to inquire for the Church : but I found that also large, spacious, and filled with People of the best Fashion.

The Trade of this Town, as well as of all the Towns on this Coast, being very much in Fish, I observed that several Ships were employed to go to *Liverpool*, and up the River *Mersey* to *Warrington*, to fetch the Rock-salt which is found in that County (and of which I shall say more in my Remarks on those Parts), to *Bidiford* and *Barnstable*, and there dissolve it into Brine in the Sea-water, joining the Strength of Two Bodies in One, and then boil it up again into a new Salt, as the *Dutch* do that of the *French* and *Portuguese*. This is justly called *Salt upon Salt*, and with this they cure their Herrings. As this is a Trade which can be but of few Years standing, because the Rock-salt itself has not been discovered in *England* many Years ; so the Difference in curing the Fish has been such, that
the

the Demand for them has considerably increased in foreign Markets.

Here is a very fine Stone Bridge over the River, built in the 14th Century, on 24 *Gothic* Arches, all uniform and regular, and very good Workmanship of the kind: these Arches are, indeed, beautiful and stately; but what a late Author says, that one of them is so big, that a Ship of 60 Tons may sail under it, is a Mistake; no such thing being practicable, either at *London* Bridge, *Rocheſter* Bridge, or even at *York*.

As *Bidiford* has a fine Bridge over the *Towridge*, so *Barnstable* has a very noble one over the *Taw*; and tho' not longer, is counted larger and stronger than the other. These Two rival Towns are really very considerable; both of them have a large Share in the Trade to *Ireland*, in the Herring-fishery, and in a Trade to the *British* Colonies in *America*: if *Bidiford* cures more Fish, *Barnstable* imports more Wine, and other Merchandizes; they are both established Ports for landing Wool from *Ireland*, of which by itself.

If *Bidiford* has a greater Number of Merchants, *Barnstable* has a greater Commerce within Land, by its great Market for *Irish* Wool and Yarn, &c. with the Serge-markets of *Tiverton* and *Exeter*, which carry on a Traffick here: so that, in a word, *Barnstable*, tho' it has lost Ground to *Bidiford*, yet, take it in all its Trade completely, is full as considerable as *Bidiford*; only, that perhaps it was formerly far superior to it, and the other has risen up to be its Match.

Barnstable is a large, well-built Town, seated among the Hills. It is more populous than *Bidiford*, but not better built, and stands lower; insomuch that at High-water in Spring-tides it is, in a manner, surrounded with Water. The Bridge was built by the generous Benefaction of one *Stamford*, a Citizen and Merchant of *London*, who, it seems, was not a Native of the Place; but, by trading here to his Gain, had Kindness enough for the Town, to confer that valuable Benefit

upon it. It was formerly walled in, and had a Castle and a Priory. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, and 24 Burgesſes, whereof 2 are Aldermen. It has alſo an High-Steward, and Recorder.

The Bridge at *Bidiford*, as above, was likewise a Gift; but was, as they ſay, raiſed by Collections among the Clergy, by Grant of Indulgences, and the like Church Management: however, both the Towns are infinitely obliged to the Benefactors; and we wiſh no worſe Uſe had ever been made of Superſtition.

Behind *Bidiford*, as we come from *Launceſton*, are ſeveral good Towns; tho' I obſerved, that the Country was wild and barren; as *Taviſtock*, *Torrington*, &c.

Taviſtock returns Two Members to Parliament. It is ſituated on the *Tavy*, among Springs, and is a large Town, pretty well built. The Abbat of this Place ſat in Parliament; built a Church of 126 Yards long, ſpacious Cloiſters, and a Chapter-houſe, with 36 Stalls, which are all now deſtroyed.

The Town of *Torrington* is ſituated on the ſame River that *Bidiford* ſtands upon. It has a large ſpacious Church, with a Library in it; and was, for ſome time, the Reſidence of *Margaret*, the Mother of *Henry VII.*

Another Town in this Part of the Country is *Okehampton*, vulgarly *Okington*, a good Market and Borough-town, governed by Eight principal Burgeſſes, and as many Aſſiſtants. It is a manufacturing Town, as all the Towns this Way now are, and pretty rich; but in the Records of Antiquity it appears to have been much more conſiderable than it is now, having 92 Knights Fees belonging to it. This Town returns Two Members to Parliaments.

A little above *Barnſtable*, N. E. upon the Coaſt, ſtands a noted Market and Port-town, called *Ilfordcomb*, a Place of good Trade, populous, and rich; which is owing to its having a very good Harbour
and

and Road for Ships, which affords a safe Shelter for Vessels from *Ireland*, when in bad Weather they cannot, without the extremest Hazard, run into the Mouth of the *Taw*, which they call *Barnstable Water*; and this is one Reason, that the Merchants at *Barnstable* do much of their Business at this Port of *Ilfordcomb*.

The Harbour of this Town was maintained formerly at the private Expence of the Ancestors of Sir *Bourchier Wray*, Bart. Lord of the Manor; and the Quay or Pier of it contains in Length upwards of 850 Feet, and in Height upwards of 40; and the Warp-house, Light-house, Pilot-boats, and Tow-boats, belonging to the Port, were at first founded and built, and constantly repaired and maintained, by that worthy Family, without any Assistance, but some small Acknowledgements paid to them as Lords of the Manor. But by Length of Time, and Violence of the Sea, the Quay was very much sunk and impair'd; the Warp and Warp-house, by long Usage, were gone to Decay; and the Boats for Piloting and Towing were much out of Repair; and the small Duties and Acknowledgements to Sir *Bourchier* sinking, and being frequently unpaid; to remedy all these Evils, an Act passed *Anno 1731. George II.* for repairing, and keeping in Repair, and enlarging the Piers and Harbour, and for the Support of the Light and Light-house, the Warp and Warp-house, and the Pilot and Towing-boats, as above-mentioned: so that, by this means, the Harbour of *Ilfordcomb* is likely to continue the useful and convenient Port it has been for so many Years past, to the End of Time.

Antiquity tells us long Stories of the *Danes* landing on this Coast; of *Hubba*, the *Danish* King, being slain at *Kennith Castle*, between this Place and the Mouth of the *Taw* and *Towridge*; and that the Place was called *Hubbestow*, from his being buried there: but I could

could not hear either of this Castle, or Burial-place, or so much as the Ruins of them.

The Sea-Coast in this County runs a little farther East by North; but nothing of Moment is to be seen there, excepting Fishing-town^s, and little Creeks, on which is one Market-town; viz. *Combermont*.

Leaving the Coast in our Journey Southward, we came to the great River *Ex* or *Isca*, which rises in the Hills on the North Side of the County, and, like the *Tamar*, begins within Four or Five Miles of the *Severn* Sea. The Country it rises in is called *Exmore*: *Camden* says it is a filthy, barren Ground; and indeed so it is: but as soon as the *Ex* comes off from the Moors, and hilly Country, and descends into the lower Grounds, we found an Alteration; for then we saw *Devonshire* in its other Countenance, cultivated, populous, and fruitful; and continuing so till we came to *Tiverton*.

Next to *Exeter*, *Tiverton* is the greatest manufacturing Town in the County; and, of all the inland Towns, is likewise next to it in Wealth, and Number of People: it stands on the River *Ex*, and has over it an old Stone Bridge, with another over the little River *Loman*, which immediately after falls into the *Ex* just below the Town. Antiquity says, before those Bridges were built, there were Two Fords here, one thro' each River; and that the Town was from thence called *Twysfordton*, that is, *the Town upon the Two Fords*; and so, by abbreviating the Sounds, *Twysforton*, then *Tiverton*.

This Town has been a remarkable Sufferer by Fire; for in the Year 1598. *April* 3. it was consumed on a sudden; *Aug.* 5. 1612. it was again burnt down; and *July* 5. 1731. another dreadful Fire destroyed there 200 of the best Houses.

An Act passed on this sad Occasion, *Anno* 1732. for the more easy rebuilding the Town, and determining Differences on that Account; and it enjoins, that the new-built Houses shall be covered with Lead, Slate,

or

or Tile, and not Thatch; that perilous Trades shall not be exercised in public Streets; that no Stacks of Hay, Straw, Corn, &c. shall be erected at or near the public Parts of the Town; that Fire-Engines may be bought by the Guardians of the Poor; that the Houses may be demolished to stop any future Fire; that the Streets and Passages of the Town may be enlarged, and particular Houses pulled down for that Purpose; with other useful Provisions.

An Act also passed *Anno* 1733. for making a Chapel, built by the Subscription of the Inhabitants of *Tiverton*, a perpetual Cure; and for providing a Maintenance for the Ministers who shall officiate in it: for, as the Preamble to the Act observes, the Parish-church was not near capacious enough to receive the Inhabitants of the Parish. The late Sir *William Wyndham* was a great Encourager and Promoter of this new Chapel, at its first Erection.

But the Beauty of *Tiverton* is the Free-school, at the East Entrance into the Town, a noble Building, but a much nobler Foundation. It was erected by one *Peter Blundel*, a Clothier, and a Lover of Learning; who used the Saying of *William of Wickham* to the King, when he founded the Royal School at *Winchester*; viz. "That if he was not himself a Scholar, he would be the Occasion of making more Scholars than any Scholar in *England*;" to which End he founded this School. He has endowed it so liberally, that, I was told, the Schoolmaster has, at least, 60 Pounds *per Annum*, besides a very good House to live in, and the Advantage of Scholars not on the Foundation; and that the Usher has in Proportion. To this the generous Founder added Two Fellowships, and Two Scholarships, for which he gave the Maintenance to *Sydney College* in *Cambridge*; and one Fellowship, and Two Scholarships, to *Baliol College* in *Oxford*: all which are appointed for the Scholars bred up in this School.

As this is the chief Nursery of almost all the young Gentry of these Western Parts, the Profit arising to the Master from Boarders, and the liberal Benefactions of the Parents, added to the Salary before-mentioned, render it a Preferment suitable to a Man of the best Parts and Learning: and as the Trustees are Gentlemen of great Honour, it is generally disposed of to the most worthy Candidate.

The great Number of Gentlemens Sons sent hither for their Education, as I have hinted, is no small Advantage to the Town likewise: and this, joined with the brisk Trade carried on here, renders it so flourishing, that notwithstanding the Calamity it underwent by the Fire in 1731. which almost totally consumed it, it is already very elegantly rebuilt; and carries very few other Marks of this Devastation, than the Magnificence and Beauty of the new Structures.

As this is a manufacturing Country, we found the People here all fully employed, and very few, if any, out of Work. *Tiverton* returns Two Members to Parliament.

From this Town there is little belonging to *Devonshire* but what has been spoken of, except what lies in the Road to *Taunton*, which we took next, where we meet with the River *Columb*, which rises also in the utmost Limits of the County towards *Somersetshire*, and gives Name to so many Towns on its Banks, that it leaves no room to doubt of its own Name being right: such are *Columb-David's*, *Ufcolumb*, *Columbstock*, and *Columbton*; the last is a Market-town, and they are all full of Manufactures depending much on the Master-manufacturers of *Tiverton*.

Before we leave *Devonshire*, it will not be amiss to take Notice of *Lundy Island*, which is Part of the County, and, tho' 50 Miles from *Devonshire*, North-westward, is much more remote from any other Continent. 'Tis but Five Miles long, and Two broad; but so surrounded with inaccessible Rocks, that there is but one small

Entrance

Entrance into it, where Two Men can ſcarce go abreast. Tho' this Island lies ſo far in the Sea, it has the Advantage of ſeveral Springs of freſh Water.

With the Town of *Tiverton* we leave the County of *Devon*, and, entering *Somerſetſhire*, have really a View of a different Country from *Devonſhire*: for at *Wellington*, the firſt Town we came to in *Somerſetſhire*, tho' partly employed in Manuſacturing too, we were immediately ſurrounded with Beggars, to ſuch a Degree, that we had ſome Difficulty to keep them from under our Horſes Heels. I was aſtoniſh'd at ſuch a Sight, in a Country where the People were ſo generally full of Work; for in *Cornwall*, where there are hardly any Manuſacturers, and abundance of Poor, we never found any like this.

Wellington is a low dirty Place, and is only remarkable for having been the Place of Reſidence of the Lord Chief Juſtice *Popham*, in the Reigns of *Q. Elizabeth*, and *K. James I.* who was buried here. They talk much of one *Salkeld*, who was converted from Popery by King *James I.* and made Miniſter of this Place. He called himſelf, in Compliment to the King, *The Royal Convert*; who, in return, complimented him with the Title of the *Learned Salkeld*; which, by-the-by, reflected no bad Compliment on himſelf, for having converted a learned Man.

The County of *Somerſet* joins to the North-eaſt Part of *Devonſhire*, and takes its Name from the *British* Word *Gladyr Haf*, which ſignifies *Summer-country*; and ſo the *Welſh* call it in their Language to this Day. I touch'd only upon one Point of the County in my laſt, as I went Weſtward. The whole County is worth a more particular Account than can be given within the Space of a Letter.

From *Wellington* we came to *Taunton*, leaving *Blackdown Hills* on our Right, and *Ilminſter* behind them Southward, a Market-town, famed for its very good

good Church, and a stately Monument erected in it to *Nicolas Wadham*, and *Dorothy* his Wife, Founders of *Wadham College, Oxon.*

Near *Taunton* lies that rich Track of Ground, vulgarly called *Taunton-Dean*: this large, wealthy, and very populous Town, takes its Name from the River *Tone*, whereon it is situated. One of the chief Manufacturers here told us, that there was at that time so good a Trade in the Town, that they had 1100 Looms going for the weaving of Sagathies, Duroys, and such kind of Stuffs; and that not one of those Looms wanted Work. He added, that there was not a Child in the Town, or in the Villages round it, of above Five Years old, but, if it was not neglected by its Parents, and untaught, could earn its own Bread. This was what I never met with in any Place in *England*, except at *Colchester* in *Essex*.

The Election of Members here, is by those whom they call Pot-Walloners, that is to say, every Inhabitant, whether Housekeeper or Lodger, who dresses his own Victuals: to make out which, several Inmates or Lodgers will, some little time before the Election, bring out their Pots, and make Fires in the Street, and boil their Victuals in the Sight of their Neighbours, that their Votes may not be called in Question.

There are Two large Parish-churches in this Town, and Two or Three Meeting-houses, one of which is said to be the largest in the County. The Inhabitants have been noted for Dissenters, principally; for *Taunton* was always counted a Seminary for such. They suffered much in the Duke of *Monmouth's* Rebellion, but paid King *James* home for the Cruelty exercised by *Jefferies* among them: for when the Prince of *Orange* arriv'd, the whole Town ran in to him, with so universal a Joy, that it was thought, if he had wanted it, he might have rais'd a little Army there, and in the adjacent Part of the Country.

There is a kind of College, or Academy, for the Dissenters,

Dissenters, in this Town; and it is by far the greatest Town in all this Part of the Country.

From *Taunton* we went North, to take a View of the Coast. *Exmore*, of which mention was made above, where the Rive *Ex* rises, lies in the Way, Part of it in this County, and extending to the Sea-side: it gives, indeed, but a melancholy View, being a vast Track of barren and desolate Lands; yet on the Coast there are some very good Sea-ports.

Porlock, on the utmost Extent of the County, has but a small Harbour; nor has it any thing of Trade.

But *Minehead*, the safest Harbour on this Side, is a fine Port: no Ship is so big, but it may come in; and no Weather so bad, but the Ships are safe when they are in: and they told me, that in the great Storm, *Anno* 1703, when the Ships were blown on Shore, wreck'd, and lost, in every Harbour of the County, they suffered little or no Damage in this.

The Trade of this Town lies chiefly with *Ireland*, and this was, for many Years, the chief Port in these Parts, where Wool from *Ireland* was allowed to be imported; but that Liberty is since enlarged to several other Ports, by Act of Parliament.

The Town returns Two Members to Parliament. It is well-built, full of rich Merchants, and has some Trade also to *Virginia*, and the *West-Indies*. They correspond much with the Merchants of *Barnstable* and *Bristol*, in their foreign Trade. What has greatly contributed to the Improvement of *Minehead*, was an Act pass'd in the 12th and 13th Year of the late King *William's* Reign, which was continued by an Act of the 10th of the late Queen *Anne*, For recovering, securing, and keeping in Repair, the Harbour of *Minehead*. And now, so lately as in the Session 1737-8. another Act pass'd, For further continuing the Terms and Powers of the Two former Acts, for the bringing to Effect the same laudable Purposes: in pursuance of which, a new Head has been built, the Beach clear'd,
and

and a great Progress made in the Piers, and designed Works.

From hence the Coast bears back East to *Watchet*, a small Port of late Years, tho' formerly much more considerable; for it had given Place to *Minehead*, tho' now it is in a much better Condition than it us'd to be in: and this it owes to Two Acts of Parliament; one pass'd in the 6th Year of the late Queen *Anne*, For repairing of its Quay and Harbour; and the other in the 10th. But when the Works design'd were near completed, it was found, that the Quay was built much too low, and not extended to a sufficient Length to preserve the Town, and the Ships and Vessels riding in the Harbour, from the Violence of the Sea: whereupon, another Act passed, in the 7th of King *George I.* For continuing the Duties laid by the former Acts, and remedying the Inconveniencies before-mention'd.

It seems to me, that the Town of *Minehead* rose out of the Decay of the Towns of *Porlock* and *Watchet*.

On this Coast are vast Quantities of Rock, or rather Pebble, which the Sea, at low Water, leaves uncovered; from whence the neighbouring Inhabitants fetch them on Shore to an higher Ground, and burn them into Lime, for dressing their Land: but it is more especially useful in Building; for that no Cement whatsoever is more lasting for *Fets d'Eaux*, Heads, Piers, and other Masonry, that is to lie under Water; in which Position it runs up to a Stone as hard as Marble, and is scarce to be beaten abroad. The Cliffs are stor'd with Alabaster, which, by the Wash of the Sea, falls down, and is conveyed from hence to *Bristol*, and other Places on this Shore, in great Plenty. Neither should it be omitted, that the Inhabitants burn great Quantities of Sea-weed, to supply the Glass-makers at *Bristol*.

Walking on the Beach near *Watchet*, I discover'd among the large Gravel great Numbers of Stones, fluted

ed in Imitation of the Shells of Fishes, of all Kinds. Many of the flat kind are double, and curiously tallied one in another, which may, by a violent Stroke, be separated. How to account for the vast Variety to be found here of this Sport of Nature, I know not: some have seen as broad as a Pewter-dish, and again others no bigger than a Pepper-corn; but in all of them the Flutings are regular; some like the Escalop, in Rays from a Centre; others like the Periwinkle, in spiral Lines: in these, and all other Forms, they lie here in great Plenty.

Quantock is an high Down in the Neighbourhood; from whence, besides the Two little Islands called the *Steep-Holms*, and the *Flat-Holms*, and an extensive View of the Chanel, I had a fair and distinct Prospect of the *Welsh* Coast, for many Leagues in Length.

From hence the winding Shore brings us to *Bridgwater*: this is an antient and very considerable Town and Port. It stands at the Mouth of the River *Parrot*, or *Perrot*, which comes from the South, after having received the River *Tone* from the West, which is made navigable up to within a few Miles of *Taunton* by a very fine new Chanel cut at the Expence of the People of *Taunton*, and which, by the Navigation of it, is infinitely advantageous to that Town, and well worth all their Expence; first, by bringing up Coals, which are brought from *Swanzy* in *Wales* by Sea to *Bridgwater*, and thence by Barges up this River to *Taunton*; next, for bringing all heavy Goods and Merchandizes from *Bristol*; such as Iron, Lead, Oil, Wine, Hemp, Flax, Pitch, Tar, Grocery, Dye-stuffs, and the like.

This Town of *Bridgwater* sends Two Members to Parliament. It is a populous, trading Town, well-built, and as well inhabited; having many Families of good fashion dwelling in it, besides Merchants. The famous Admiral *Blake*, who under the Commonwealth
fo

so much exalted the Glory of the *English* maritime Force, was a Native of this Town.

This Town was regularly fortified in the late Civil Wars, and sustained more than one Siege. The Situation of it renders it easy to be fortified, the River and Haven taking one chief Part of the Circumference. Over the River they have a very good Bridge of Stone; and the Tide rises here, at High-water, near Six Fathoms, and sometimes flows in with such Impetuosity, that it comes Two Fathoms deep at a time; and when it does so, unawares, it often occasions great Damage to Ships, driving them foul of one another, and frequently oversets them. This sudden Rage of the Tide is called the *Boar*, and is frequent in all the Rivers of this Chanel, especially in the *Severn*: 'tis also known in the North, particularly in the *Trent*, and the *Ouse*, at their Entrance into the *Humber*, at *Bristol*, and in several other Places.

There is in *Bridgwater*, besides a very large Church, a fine Meeting-house, built since the Toleration, in which 'tis remarkable, that they have an advanced Seat for the Mayor and Aldermen, when any of the Magistrates shall be of their Communion, as sometimes has happened. Here also is a College, or private Academy, for the Dissenters to breed up their preaching Youth.

From *Bridgwater* is a Road to *Bristol*, which they call the *Lower-way*; the *Upper-way*, which is the more frequented Road, being over *Mendip* Hills. This *Lower-way* is not always passable, being subject to Floods, and dangerous Inundations. All this Part of the Country, viz. between *Bridgwater* and the Sea, and on Northward upon the Coast, lies low, and is wholly employed in feeding of Black Cattle, which they bring out of the West Part of *Devon*, and the neighbouring Borders of *Cornwall*, where the finest are bred: for as to those few bred in these low Lands, they are very heavy, sluggish, and unshapely; and the Beef

soft

ſoft and ſpongy, ſuch as they ſeldom or never drive to *London Markets*. Indeed, they breed a great many Colts; but then they too muſt be tranſplanted very young, into a dry, healthy Soil; for 'tis very difficult to find an Horſe of their own Breed fit for any thing but a Drudge. The Moors, or Maſh-grounds, which are alſo employ'd in the ſame way, extend themſelves up the Rivers *Perrot* and *Ivil*, into the Heart of the County; of which in its Place.

Brent-Knowle is a riſing Hill in the flat Country, the Midway between *Bridgwater* and *Axbridge*; commands a Proſpect over the Mouth of the *Severn*, and the County of *Monmouth*, into *Glamorganshire*, Weſt; over *Mendip Hills*, and beyond them, North; a full Proſpect of *Wells*, and *Glaſtonbury*, and far beyond them, Eaſt; and *Bridgwater* and *Hants* towards the South.

This low Part, between *Bridgwater* and *Briſtol*, ſuffered exceedingly in that terrible Inundation of the Sea, which was occaſioned by the great Storm, *Anno 1703*. and the Country-people have ſet up Marks upon their Houſes and Trees, with this Note upon them, *Thus high the Waters came in the great Storm; Thus far the great Tide flowed up in the laſt violent Tempeſt*; and the like.

In one Place they ſhewed us where a Ship was driven up upon the Shore, ſeveral hundred Yards from the ordinary High-water Mark, and left upon dry Land.

As the low Part is thus employed in grazing and feeding Cattle, ſo all the reſt of this large-extended County is employed in the Woollen Manufacture, and in the beſt and moſt profitable Part of it; *viz.*

In Taunton,

The Serges, Druggets, &c. and ſeveral other Kinds of Stuffs.

In Wells, Shepton, Glaſtonbury, &c.

Knitting of Stockens, principally for the *Spaniſh Trade.* *In*

*In Bristol, and many Towns on that Side,
Druggets, Cantaloons, and other Stuffs.*

*In Fromm, Philips-Norton, and all the Country border-
ing upon Wiltshire,*

*Fine Spanish Medley Cloths, especially on that Part
of the County from Wincaunton, and Meer, to War-
minster, Bruton, Castlecary, Temple-comb, down to
Gillingham and Shaftesbury, in Dorsetshire.*

These fine *Spanish* Medley-cloths are the mix'd colour'd Cloths, which all the Persons of Fashion in *England* wear. There are vast Quantities of these exported to all Parts of *Europe*; and it is so very considerable a Trade, and of so vast an Advantage to *England*, in maintaining and supporting so many poor Families, and making so many rich ones, that it is almost impossible to give a just Description of it: the above Sketch, however, may serve as an Introduction to it. But I shall add a little more concerning this County; and upon my entering into the North-west and West Parts of *Wiltshire*, where the Centre of this Prodigy of a Trade is, I shall sum it all up together, and shew you the Extent of Land which it spreads itself upon; and then give you some Idea, as well of the vast Numbers of People who are sustained, as of those who are enrich'd by it.

But I must first go back a little while into *Somersetshire*: The Northern Part of the County I did not visit in this Journey, which, as I hinted before, is only a Return from my long Travel to the *Land's-end*: in omitting this Part, I, of course, leave the Two Cities of *Bristol* and *Bath*, and that high Part of the County called *Mendip-hill*, to my next Western Journey, which will include all the Counties due West from *London*: for these now spoken of, tho' ordinarily called the West-country, are rather South-west than West.

In that Part of the Country which lies Southward of *Taunton* and *Bridgwater*, is *Langport*, a well frequented

quented Market-town, on the River *Parr*, which is navigable for Barges to *Bristol*, and occasions a good Trade here. Eels are exceeding plentiful and cheap here. Near this Place General *Fairfax* beat up the discontented *Goring's* Quarters, and intirely defeated him.

South Petherton is a Market-town on the ſame River, famous, of old, for the Palace of King *Ina*, but now of no other Note than for an annual Fair, which laſts Five Days, in *June*.

From hence you come to *Yeovil*, which I have already mentioned, Vol. I. p. 331.

Iwelcheſter is a Borough-town, and, as its Ruins ſhew, was formerly very large; and encompass'd with a double Wall, and had Four Churches. It has now a good Bridge over the *Iwel*, and ſends Two Members to Parliament.

Somerton is a good Market-town, whence, ſome ſay, the County takes its Name. It was antiently very noted, and had a ſtrong Caſtle, in which *John* King of *France* was Priſoner. Here is a Fair which is held between *Palm-Sunday* and the Middle of *June*.

Milbourn lies on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*: it is very antient, and returns Two Members to Parliament.

Camalet is a noted Place, ſituated, on the higheſt Ground in this County, on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*: its vulgar Name is *Cadbury-caſtle*, from the Village of *North Cadbury*, wherein it ſtands. Hereabouts riſe the Rivers of *Somerſetſhire*, which run into the *Severn* Sea Weſtward; and that in *Dorſet*, which goes Eaſtward, thro' *Sturmiſter*, into the Southern Ocean. It is a noble Fortification of the *Romans*. The Proſpect is woody, and very pleaſant; here-and-there lofty and ſteep Hillocks. *Roman* Coins, in great Plenty, have been found here, and in all the Country round. The Entrance is guarded with Six or Seven Ditches. On the North-ſide, in the Fourth Ditch, is a never-failing Spring, call'd *King Arthur's Well*; over it they have

dug up square Stones, Door-jambs with Hinges, and say there are subterraneous Vaults thereabout. The Church and Tower of *Cadbury* is small, but neatly built of Stone.

At *Wincaunton*, an Urn was lately found full of *Roman* Money: Half a Peck of the same Coin was discovered in inclosing Ground, toward *Beacon-ash*, a little above *Sutton*; as also *Patera's*, a Knife, and other Antiquities, now in Lord *Winchelsea's* Custody: in particular, at *Long-Leat*, in Lord *Weymouth's* Library, a Piece of Lead weighing 50 Pounds, One Foot Nine Inches long, Two Inches thick, Three and an half broad, found in Lord *Fitzharding's* Grounds near *Bru-ton* in *Somersetshire*, was discovered by digging an Hole to set a Gate-post in, with a legible Inscription.

The Road from hence to *Glastonbury* is over Rocks, and Heads of Rivers; but that is alleviated by the many natural Curiosities such Places afford.

Kyneton Village, for half a Mile together, is naturally pav'd with One smooth broad Rock, the whole Length of the Road; so that it looks like Ice.

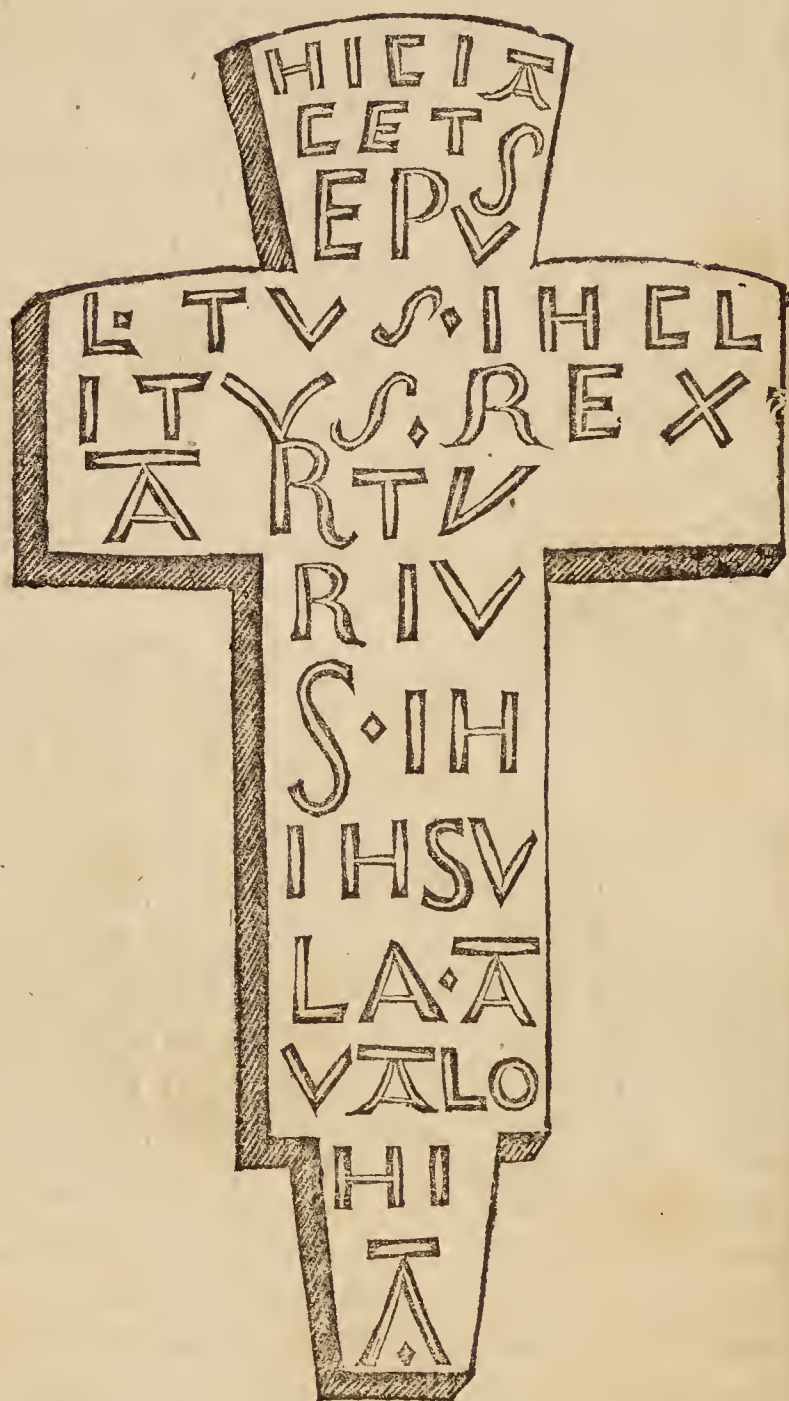
Crossing the *Fosse* Road at *Lyteford*, you enter a flat moorish Country, full of artificial Cuts and Drains. The Ascent to the *Torr*, which overhangs the Town of *Glastonbury*, is very difficult. Upon a narrow Crest of the *Torr*, which is much the highest, the Abbat built a Church to St. *Michael*, of good square Stone. The Tower is left, tho' ruinous, and is an excellent Sea-mark. It probably cost more to raise the Stone to this Height, than to erect the Building. Half way up is a Spring: it is certainly higher than any Ground within Ten Miles of the Place. In the times of Superstition this great Monastery held the first Place for Reputation of Sanctity.

The Inhabitants will have it, that King *Arthur* was buried here; and, as a Proof thereof, that his Coffin had been found in this Place; and also, that *Joseph* of *Arimathea* had been there, and that when he had fixed his

his Staff in the Ground, which was on *Christmas-day*, it immediately took Root, budded, put forth White-thorn-leaves, and the next Day was in full Blossom, white as a Sheet; and that the Plant is preserved, and blows every *Christmas-day*, as at first, to this very time.

I believe the Miracle amounts to this; *viz.* That a kind of White-thorn grows hereabout, which, in a mild Winter, puts forth some Blossoms about *Christmas*: and I doubt not, but some of the same kind may be found at other Places, if any Observations were made of it. But this Place is remarkable for many other marvellous Stones recorded by the Monks, who formerly possessed it.

As to the Burial of King *Arthur*, Mr. *Camden* makes no doubt of it; and gives us, from *Giraldus Cambrensis*, an Account how King *Henry II.* caused Search to be made for his Tomb; and before the Workmen had dug Seven Feet deep, they came to a great Stone, having a Cross of Lead on the Inside of it, and the subsequent Letters or Inscription upon it, and in the following rude Character; of which the said *Giraldus Cambrensis*, Mr. *Camden* says, was an Eye-witness, as well as of a Coffin of hollow'd Oak, which they found by digging Nine Feet deeper than the Inscription; wherein were deposited the Bones of that great Prince. The Inscription is as follows:



But to leave these more disputable Points for Mat-
 ters of greater Certainty: it is not doubted but King
Ina built the Church of *Glastonbury*, as one of the most
 antient, so the most wealthy and magnificent, loaded
 with Revenues by the *Saxon*, and perhaps the *British*
 Monarchs. The Abbat lived in little less State than
 the Royal Donors. He could from the *Torr* see a vast
 Track

Track of this rich Land in his own Possession, and Seven Parks, well stor'd with Deer, belonging to the Monastery. 'Tis wall'd round, and embattled like a Town, a Mile in Compass.

When I was last at *Glastonbury*, there were magnificent Ruins; but, within a few Years, a Presbyterian Tenant had made more barbarous Havock there, than had been since the Dissolution: for every Week a Pillar, a Buttress, a Window-jamb, or an Angle of fine hewn Stone, was sold to the best Bidder. And they were actually stripping *St. Joseph's* Chapel for that Purpose, and the squar'd Stones were laid up by Lots in the Abbat's Kitchen. The rest goes to paving Yards, and Stalls for Cattle, or to the Highway. So much Dread, indeed, have the People here of Founders Curses, that they are afraid to make use of the Materials for Dwelling-houses; and are full of Stories of sad Accidents and Judgments, that have fallen upon such as have; but venture it for the Highways, for a Town-house, and even for Barns and Stables: so that, as one observes, where few are so hardy as to apply them to their particular or personal Use, a public Building shall be erected, where all come in for their Snack.

The Abbat's Lodging was a fine Stone Building; but could not content the just-mention'd Tenant, who pull'd it down, and out of it built a new House, absurdly setting up the Arms and Cognizances of the great *Saxon* Kings and Princes, who were Founders, and of the Abbats, over his own Doors and Windows. Nothing is left intire, but the Kitchen; a judicious Piece of Architecture; but Tradition says, that this is but a modern Building: for the Story goes, That *Whiting*, the last Abbat, being dealt with by *Henry VIII.* and his Cormorants, for a Surrender, and bravely refusing to join in the Sacrilege, that Prince proceeded to Menaces, and told him, he would "burn his Kitchen about his Ears." To which he return'd Answer,

C 3

that

that "he would build such an one as all the Timber
 "in the Forest should not burn." And accordingly, as
 'tis said, built this in Defiance, which is all of firm
 Stone, Walls and Roof; having nothing combustible
 in it. But what neither Flattery nor Menaces could
 effect, Tyranny and Murder brought about: for the
 Abbat was hang'd on *St. Michael's Tower*, just now
 mention'd, on the Top of the high Hill call'd *The
 Torr*; thereby accomplishing a Prophecy (as the Towns-
 men call it, but rather occasioning a Saying since spread
 abroad), that *A Whiting should swim over Glaston-
 bury Torr*.

The Church was large and magnificent; the Walls
 of the Choir are standing, 25 Fathoms long, and 12
 broad: there is one Jamb, at the East-end of the high
 Altar, left.

Hearabout were buried King *Edgar*, and many of
 the *Saxon* Monarchs, whose noble Ashes ought to have
 protected the Whole.

Two Pillars of the great Middle Tower are left,
 next the Choir. On the North-side is *St. Mary's*
 Chapel, as they told me; the Roof beat down by
 Violence, and a mean wooden one in its Place,
 thatch'd with Stubble, to make it serve as a Stable:
 the Manger lies upon the Altar and Nich, where they
 put the Holy-water; *St. Edgar's* Chapel is opposite to
 it; but there is not much left of it besides the Foun-
 dations. The present Work is 44 Paces long, and 36
 wide without: the Roof is chiefly wanting. Two
 little Turrets are at the Corners of the West-end,
 and Two more at the Interval of Four Windows from
 thence; which seem to indicate the Space of Ground
 the First Chapel was built on: the rest, between it and
 the Church, was a kind of Antechapel. Underneath
 was a Vault, now full of Water, the Floor of the
 Chapel being beaten down into it: it was wrought with
 great Stones.

Here was a capacious Receptacle of the Dead. They
 have

have taken up many leaden Coffins, and melted them into Cisterns.

The Roof of the Chapel was finely arch'd with Rib-work of Stone: the Sides of the Walls are full of small Pillars of *Suffex* Marble, as likewise the whole Church; which was a mean Way of ornamenting in those Times: they are mostly beaten down. Between them the Walls are painted with Pictures of Saints, as still easily seen. All the Walls are overgrown with Ivy, which is the only thing here in a flourishing Condition; every thing else presenting a most melancholy, tho' venerable Aspect. On the South-side the Cloisters was the great Hall.

The Townsmen bought the Stones of the Vaults underneath to build a sorry Market-house; not discerning the Benefit accruing to the Town from the great Concourse of Strangers purposely to see this Abbey, which is now its greatest Trade, as formerly its only Support: for 'tis in a most miserable decaying Condition, as wholly cut off from the large Revenues spent among them.

There are many other Foundations of the Buildings left in the great Area; but, in the present Hands, will soon be rooted up, and the very Footsteps of them effaced, which so many Ages had been erecting.

The Abbat's Hall, I have been told, was curiously wainscoted with Oak, and painted with Coats of Arms in every Panel. The Morter of these Buildings is very good, and great Rocks of the Roof of the Church lie upon the Ground; chiefly consisting of Rubble-stone untouch'd by the fanatical Destroyers, who chiefly work on the hewn Stone of the Outside, till a whole Wall falls, when undermin'd a little.

Throughout the Town are the tatter'd Remains of Doors, Windows, Bases, Capitals of Pillars, &c. brought from the Abbey, and put into every poor Cottage.

In the Town are Two Churches; the upper an
C 4 hand-

handsome Fabric, with a fine Tower of good Design, adorn'd with Figures in Niches. The *George Inn* is an old Stone Building, call'd *The Abbat's Inn*, where chiefly the Pilgrims were lodged, who came strolling hither, and idling their time away for Sanctity. A Coat of Arms, of the Kings of *England*, supported by a Lion and a Bull, is over the Gate, with many Crosses. There was a Bed of large Timber, with imboss'd gilt Panels, which seem'd to have been the Abbat's.

But what promises, in some measure, to restore this Place to its former Consideration, is the Discovery very lately made of its salubrious Waters. 'The Resort to *Glastonbury* on this Account (says a Gentleman, writing to his Friend on the Subject) is very extraordinary. 'Some of the Objects that come hither for Relief are 'shocking beyond Expression; and the Cures that have 'been already performed by these Waters, are amazing. 'I dare say, that within one Month (*Anno 1751.*) 'there have been near Twenty thousand People to drink 'the Waters here. The chief Resort used to be on a 'Sunday, which was owing to the superstitious Notion 'of a Man, whose Recovery from an Asthma by drinking these Waters, which he was induced to by a 'Dream, first brought them into Request. The Inhabitants of *Glastonbury* are extremely industrious to 'procure Accommodations for all who come hither. 'There are now no less than Seven hundred Lodgers 'in or near Town. Strangers meet with kind Treatment, and more reasonable Living than one would 'imagine, where such an advantageous Discovery has 'been made. The Waters are very agreeable to the 'Taste, give great Spirits, and create a vast Appetite, 'and are certainly the greatest Antiscorbutic that has 'ever been found.

'The Composition of these Waters is not as yet 'well known: Many Experiments have been tried, 'and they are supposed to be strongly impregnated with

'Steel,

‘ Steel, Alum, and ſome other Salts. They are not purgative, unleſs in ſome Caſes; they operate chiefly by ‘ Urine and Perſpiration.’

Four Miles from *Glaſtonbury* lies the little City of *Wells*, where is One of the neateſt Cathedrals in *England*; particularly, the Weſt Front of it, which is a complete Draught of Imagery, as well as very antient. It was built (on the Site of the old one founded by King *Ina*) by *Robert de Lewes*, and *Joceline de Welles*.

The Cloſe, or Part of the City where the Biſhop's Palace is, is very properly call'd ſo; for it is wall'd in, and lock'd up like a little Fortification, and has a Mote round it. The dignified Clergy live in the Inſide of it, and the Prebendaries and Canons have very agreeable Dwellings. Here are no leſs than 27 Prebendaries, and 19 Canons, beſides a Dean, a Chancellor, a Precentor, and Three Archdeacons; a Number which very few Cathedrals in *England* have beſides. Biſhop *Thomas de Bekyngton*, who ſat here in 1443. built the beautiful Palace-gate, and 12 ſtately Stone Houſes. Biſhop *Knight*, and Dean *Woolman*, made the fine arch'd Fabric in the Market-place, now call'd the Croſs.

The County is the Dioceſe, which was inſtituted in 909. by King *Edward* the elder, and contains 388 Pariſhes; and the Archdeaconries are of *Wells*, *Bath*, and *Taunton*.

The City lies juſt at the Foot of the Mountains call'd *Mendip-hills*, and is built on a ſtony Foundation. Its Manufacture is chiefly of Stockens, as has been ſaid: 'tis well-built, and populous. It was, at the Requeſt of Biſhop *Welles* before-mention'd, made a free Borough by King *Henry II.* which was confirmed by King *John*, who granted it other Privileges, which Queen *Elizabeth* ratified, and appointed that it ſhould be governed by a Mayor, Recorder, 7 Aldermen, and 16 Common-councilmen. The Market-days are *Wednesday*

and *Friday*. The City sends Two Members to Parliament.

Near this City, and just under the Hills, is the famous *Wokey-Hole*, the chief Curiosity of which is frequently found in all such subterraneous Caverns; that the Water, dropping from the Roof of the Vault, petrifies, and hangs in long Pieces like Icicles, as if it would, in time, turn into a Column to support the Arch.

Not far from hence is *Sedgmore*, a watry splashy Place, and famous for the Defeat of the Duke of *Monmouth*.

In the low Country, on the other Side *Mendip Hills*, lies *Chedder*, a Village pleasantly situated under the very Ridge of the Mountains: before the Village is a large Green or Common, on which all the Cows belonging to the Town fed; the Ground is exceeding rich, and, as the Inhabitants are Cowkeepers, they take care to maintain the Goodness of the Soil, by agreeing to lay large Quantities of Dung, for manuring and enriching the Land.

Several Persons frequently here mix their Milk together, which often weighs an hundred Weight, sometimes more; and is so excellent, that the Cheese is often sold from 6 *d.* to 8 *d.* per Pound, when the *Cheshire* Cheese is sold but from Two-pence to Two-pence Halfpeny.

Here is a deep frightful Chasm in the Mountain, in the Hollow of which the Road goes toward *Bristol*; and out of the same Hollow springs a little Stream, which is so rapid, that it is said to drive 12 Mills, within a Quarter of a Mile of the Spring; but it must be supposed to fetch some winding Reaches in the Way, otherwise there would not be Room for 12 Mills to stand, and have a sufficient Head of Water to each, within so small a Space of Ground. The Water of this Spring grows quickly into a River, which runs down into the Marshes, and joins another little River
call'd

call'd *Axe*, about *Axbridge*, and thence into the *Bristol* Chanel, or *Severn* Sea.

I muſt now turn Eaſt, and South-eaſt; for I reſolved not to go up the Hills of *Mendip* at all, this Journey, leaving that Part to another Tour.

I come now to that Part of the County which joins to *Wiltſhire*, which I reſerv'd, in particular, to this Place, in order to give ſome Account of the Broad-cloth Manufacture, which I ſeveral times mentioned before, and which is carried on here, to ſuch a Degree, as to deſerve a Place in all the Deſcriptions or Hiſtories which ſhall be given of this Country.

As the Eaſt and South Parts of *Wiltſhire* are all hilly, ſpreading themſelves far and wide in Plains, and graſſy Downs, for breeding and feeding vaſt Flocks of Sheep; and as the Weſt and North Parts of *Somerſetſhire* are, on the contrary, low and marſhy, or mooriſh, for feeding and breeding of Black Cattle and Horſes, or for Lead Mines, &c. ſo all the South-weſt Part of *Wiltſhire*, and the Eaſt Part of *Somerſetſhire*, are low and flat, being a rich, incloſed Country, full of Rivers and Towns, and infinitely populous; inſomuch that ſome of the Market-towns are equal to Cities in Bigneſs, and ſuperior to many of them in Numbers of People.

This low flat Country contains Part of the Three Counties of *Somerſet*, *Wilts*, and *Glouceſter*; and that the Extent of it may be the eaſier underſtood by thoſe who know any thing of the Situation of the Country, it reaches from *Cirenceſter* in the North, to *Shireborn*, on the Edge of *Dorſetſhire*, South; and from the *Devizes* Eaſt, to *Bristol* Weſt; which may take in about 50 Miles in Length, where longeſt; and 20 in Breadth, where narroweſt.

In this Extent of Country, we have the following Market-towns, which are principally employed in the Clothing Trade, that is to ſay, in that Part of it which I am now ſpeaking of; namely, fine Medley, or mix'd Cloths, ſuch as are uſually worn in *England*

by the better Sort of People, and also exported in great Quantities to *Holland, Hamburgh, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Italy, &c.* The principal Clothing Towns, in this Part of the Country, are these;

In Somersfethshire.

Frome, Pentford, Philip's-Norton, Bruton, Shepton-Mallet, Castle-Carey, and Wincaunton.

In Wiltshire.

Malmsbury, Castlecomb, Chippenham, Caln, Devizes, Bradford, Trubridge, Westbury, Warminster, and Mere.

In Dorsetshire.

Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Bemister, Bere, Sturminster, and Shireborn.

In Gloucestershire.

Cirencester, Tetbury, Marshfield, Minching-Hampton, and Fairford.

These Towns, as they stand thin, and at considerable Distances from one another (for, except the Two Towns of *Bradford* and *Trubridge*, the others stand at an unusual Distance), are interspersed with a very great Number of Villages, Hamlets, and scattered Houses; in which, generally speaking, the spinning Work of all this Manufacture is performed by the poor People; the Master-Clothiers, who generally live in the greater Towns, sending out the Wool weekly to their Houses, by their Servants and Horses; and, at the same time, bringing back the Yarn that they have spun and finished, which then is fitted for the Loom.

The increasing and flourishing Circumstances of this Trade are happily visible, by the great Concourſe of People to, and Increase of Buildings and Inhabitants in, these principal Clothing Towns, where this Trade is carried on, and in the Wealth of the Clothiers. The
Town

Town of *Frome*, or, as it is written in our Maps, *Frome-Selwood*, is a Specimen of this, which is so prodigiously increased within these last 30 or 40 Years, that they have built a new Church, and many new Streets of Houses; and these Houses are so full of Inhabitants, that *Frome* is now reckon'd to have more Inhabitants in it than the City of *Bath*, and, some say, than *Salisbury*: and if their Trade continues to increase, in like manner, for a few Years more, it is very likely to become one of the greatest and wealthiest inland Towns in *England*.

Its Trade is wholly Clothing, and the Cloths they make are, generally speaking, all convey'd to *London*, where *Blackwell-hall* is their Market. And if we may believe common Fame, there are above 10,000 People in *Frome* now, more than liv'd in it 30 Years ago; and yet it was a considerable Town then.

Since the above was written, the Trade of this Town, as well as of the other Clothing Towns, has received some Check, by reason of the Wars which have disturbed the Repose of Europe; and the Towns, of consequence, are less flourishing: and it must be observ'd, that the Improvements which the French have, of late, made in the Clothing Trade, threaten lasting Discouragement to this staple Branch of British Manufacture: for that busy Nation have already beaten us out of a large Part of the Levant or Turkey Trade, by the light thin Cloths which they make; and which, tho' not so good as ours, yet suit well the Inhabitants of those hot Climates, and can be afforded cheaper. Endeavours, I am told, are making in Yorkshire, and other Parts, to recover this Branch of Trade, by outvying the French in the same sort of Manufacture.

Here are also several large Meeting-houses, as well as Churches, as there are, generally, in all the manufaturing

during trading Towns in *England*, especially in the Western Counties.

The *Devizes*, a Borough-town, is a large and important Town, and full of wealthy Clothiers; but it has lately run pretty much into the Drugget-making Trade; a Business, which has made some Invasion upon that of the Broad-cloth, great Quantities of Druggets being worn in, as well as exported from *England*, instead of Broad-cloth: but this is much the same, as to the Trade, still; for as it is all a Woollen Manufacture, and the Druggets may properly be call'd Cloth, tho' narrow, and of a different Make; so the Makers are all call'd Clothiers. This Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

The River *Avon*, a noble and large fresh River, branching itself into many Parts, and receiving almost all the Rivers on that Side of the Hills, waters this whole fruitful *Vale*: and the Water of this River seems particularly qualified for dying the best Colours, and for fulling and dressing the Cloth; so that the Clothiers generally plant themselves upon this River, but especially the Dyers; as at *Trubridge* and *Bradford*, which are the Two most eminent Clothing Towns in that Part of the *Vale* for the making fine *Spanish* Cloths, and for the nicest Mixtures.

From these Towns, South to *Westbury* and *Warminster*, the same Trade continues, and the finest Medley *Spanish* Cloths in the whole World are made in this Part. They told me at *Bradford*, that it was no extraordinary Thing to have Clothiers thereabout worth from 10,000 to 40,000 *l.* a Man; and many of the Gentry in those Counties have been originally raised from this truly noble Manufacture.

If I may speak here from the Authority of the ancient Inhabitants of the Place, who have been curious Observers upon this Subject, the Country which I have now described, as principally employed in, and maintained

ained by, this Prodigy of a Trade, contains 2,330,000 Acres of Land, and has in it 788 Parishes, and 374,000 People. It is true, that this is all Guess-work; but I must confess myself very willing to believe, that the Reckoning is far short of the Account; for this Part is exceeding large and populous.

It may be worth Inquiry, how the Manufacturers in so vast a Consumption of Wool, as such a Trade must take up, can be supplied with Wool for their Trade: and indeed it would be something strange, if the Answer were not at hand.

1. We may reasonably conclude, that this Manufacture was at first seated in this County, or, as we may say, originally planted itself here, because of the infinite Numbers of Sheep, which were always upon the Downs and Plains of *Dorset, Wilts, and Hampshire*, all adjoining. This, no doubt, induced the first Planters of the Clothing Manufacture to make choice of this delightful *Vale* in the Neighbourhood of those Plains, which afforded such immense Funds of Wool for the carrying on their Works. Thus the Manufacture of white Cloth was planted in *Stroud-water* in *Gloucestershire*, for the sake of the excellent Water there for the dying Scarlets, and all Colours that are dyed in Grain; which are better done there, than in any other Place of *England*, some Towns near *London* excepted. Hence therefore we first observe, they are supplied yearly with the Fleeces of Two or Three Millions of Sheep.

2. But as the Number of Sheep fed on these Downs is lessened, rather than increased, because of so many thousand Acres of the Carpet-ground being, of late Years, converted into Tillage, and sowed * with Wheat, and, at the same time, the Manufacture prodigiously increasing, the Manufacturers applied to other

* This Alteration has made *Warminster*, a Market-town on the Edge of *Somersetshire*, the greatest Market for Wheat in *England*, where none of it is bought to send to *London*.

Parts for a Supply; and hence began the Influx of North-country Wool from the Counties of *Northampton*, *Leicester*, and *Lincoln*, the Centre and Markets of which Trade are about *Tetbury* and *Cirencester*, where several hundred Packs are sold every Week, to supply this prodigious Consumption.

3. From *London* they have great Quantities of Wool, which is generally called *Kentish Wool*, in the Fleece, which is brought up from thence by the Farmers, since the late severe Acts against their selling it within a certain Number of Miles of the Sea; also Fell-wool for the Combers, bought of the Wool-staplers in *Barnaby-street*, and sent back by the Carriers which bring up the Cloths to Market.

4. They have also, sometimes, large Quantities of *Irish Wool* by the Way of *Bristol*, or of *Minehead* in *Somersetshire*; but this is uncertain, and only on extraordinary Occasions. I omit the *Spanish Wool*, as being an Article by itself.

Thus, as those who see the almost countless Numbers of Sheep on the Downs and Plains, and the great Quantities of Wool brought to the Markets of *Tetbury*, and other Towns, as well as what are sent down from *London* into this single *Vale*, would wonder how it was possible so much Wool could be consumed, manufactured, and wrought up; so, on the other hand, those that see what Numbers of People are employed, and what vast Quantities of Goods are made, in this Part of *England*, would wonder how the Nation should be able to supply them with Wool.

And yet, notwithstanding the whole Country is thus busy'd in the Broad-cloth Manufacture, I must not omit to mention, that here is a very great Application to another Branch or two of Trade; viz. the supplying the City of *London* with Provisions: tho' it is true, that the general Employment of the People in all this County is in the Woollen Manufacture; yet, as the Spinning is generally the Work of the Women and Children,

Children, and the Land is here exceeding rich and fertile; so it cannot be supposed, but that here are Farmers in great Numbers, whose Business it is to cultivate the Land, and supply the rest of the Inhabitants with Provisions; and this they do so well, that notwithstanding the County is exceeding populous, yet Provisions of all Sorts are cheap, the Quantity very great, and a considerable Overplus sent every Day to London.

All the lower Part of this County, and also of *Gloucestershire* adjoining, is full of large feeding Farms, which we call Dairies; and the Cheese they make is excellent, and is eaten newer than that from *Cheshire*. Of this a vast Quantity is every Week sent up to London, where, tho' it is called *Gloucestershire* Cheese, yet the greatest Part of it comes from *Wiltshire*; the *Gloucestershire* Cheese being more generally carried to *Bristol* and *Bath*, where a very great Quantity is consumed, as well by the Inhabitants of these Two populous Cities, as in Exportation to our *West-India* Colonies, and other Places; whereas this *Wiltshire* Cheese is carried to the River of *Thames*, which runs thro' Part of the County, by Land-carriage, and so by Barges to London.

Again, in the Spring of the Year, they make a vast Quantity of that we call Green or New Cheese, which is a thin and very soft Cheese, resembling Cream Cheeses, but somewhat thicker: these are so universally lik'd in London, that all the low rich Lands of this County are hardly enough to supply the Market: but then this holds for little more than the Two first Summer Months of the Year.

Besides this, the Farmers in *Wiltshire*, and the Part of *Gloucestershire* adjoining, send a very great Quantity of Bacon up to London, which is esteemed the best Bacon in *England*, *Hampshire* only excepted. This Bacon is raised here, by their great Dairies, as the Hogs are fed with the vast Quantities of Whey, and skimmed

med Milk, which the Farmers must otherwise have thrown away.

But this is not all: for as the North Part of *Wiltshire*, as well the Downs as the Vales, border upon the River *Thames*, and in some Places come up even to the Banks of it; so most of that Part of the County being arable Land, they sow a very great Quantity of Barley, which is carried to the Markets at *Abingdon*, *Faringdon*, and such Places; where it is made into Malt, and carried to *London*. This employs all the Hill-country from above *Malmsbury* to *Marlborough*, and on the Side of the *Vale of Whitehorse*, as 'tis called, which is in *Berkshire*, and the Hills adjoining; a Track of fertile Ground, which furnishes a prodigious Quantity of Barley.

Thus *Wiltshire* helps to supply *London* with Cheese, Bacon, and Malt, Three very considerable Articles, besides that vast Manufacture of fine *Spanish Cloths*, of which I have said so much: and I may, without Partiality, say, that it is thereby rendered one of the most important Counties in *England* to the public Wealth of the Kingdom. The bare Product is in itself prodigiously great; the Downs are an inexhausted Storehouse of Wool, and of Corn; and the Valley, or low Part of it, is the like for Cheese and Bacon.

One Thing here is worth while to mention, for the Observation of those Counties in *England*, where they are not yet arrived to that Perfection in Husbandry, as in this County; and I have purposely reserved it to this Place: and that is, the Downs or Plains, which tho' generally call'd *Salisbury Plain*, yet extend themselves into the Counties of *Southampton*, *Wilts*, and *Dorset*, were formerly wholly taken up with Sheep, as being thought incapable of producing Grain; but now are made to yield most plentiful Crops, by folding their Sheep upon the plowed Lands, removing the Fold every Night to a fresh Place, till the whole Fallow has been

been folded on. This alone has made these Lands, which in themselves are poor, and, in some Places, so shallow as that the Earth is not Six Inches deep over the solid Chalk, able to bear as good Wheat, as any of the richer Lands in the Vales, tho' not altogether in such great Quantities : and were it not for this Improvement, the Product would hardly compensate the Ploughman's Labour ; for many of these Lands lie up such high Hills, so remote from the Farmers Houses, which are always in the Valleys, that it would be very difficult to carry up their Dung to manure them.

If this Way of folding Sheep upon the fallow and plowed Land were practised in some other Parts of *Britain*, and especially in *Scotland*, it would effectually improve the waste Lands, which now are useless and uncultivated, and turn both Sheep and Lands to a better Account than was ever yet known among them. In *Wiltshire* it appears to be so, very significantly : for if a Farmer has a thousand Sheep, and no Fallows to fold them on, his Neighbours will give him Ten Shillings a Night for every Thousand. The plowing so much Land on the Downs may be attended with bad Consequences hereafter, tho', at the time when these Lands were broken up, it might produce Profit : for as the Surface of the Ground is very shallow, and generally great Beds of Flints lie immediately under the Turf ; so these are plowed up, and, being mixed with the small Quantity of Earth, the Ground appears to be nothing but a Quarry of Flints. And as these Grounds are soon exhausted, by Crops of Corn ; whenever any Part of them is laid down again, it is several Years before they have any Grass upon them, and never become so good a Sward, as before, as the Inhabitants themselves observed. What encouraged them to break up so much of their Downs, was the great Price which Corn bore, for some Years ; but, since that has fallen, the Crops have barely paid their Culture.

In many Parts of these Downs, which have been plowed, there is an uncommon Quantity of Thistles, which the Farmers never destroy, from a Notion which they have generally entertained, that their Sheep were once preserved, in an hard Winter, by feeding on them.

But as I have not mentioned the Clothing Towns other than as they contribute to that Trade; I shall now proceed to say something of the Towns themselves, except those in *Gloucestershire*, of which I shall speak in my next Letter, as I fall down Westward.

Shipton-Mallet, Castle-Carey, Wincaunton, and Bruton, lie to the Southward of *Wells*, and have nothing remarkable in them, except the last, which lies on the River *Brews*. It has a fair Church, a good Free-school, a stately Alms house, and the Ruins of a Priory; and, beside the Clothing Trade, is famous for Stockens.

Frome and *Philips-Norton* lie in the East Part of *Somersetshire*, upon the Borders of *Wilts*; the First is near the Forest of *Selwood*, and I have already mentioned its prodigious Increase, of late Years; the last is a very good Market-town, and has two annual Fairs, one reputed, for a One-day Fair, as great as any in *England*.

Bensford is a small Market-town, and lies North-west toward *Bristol*.

Malmesbury, a Borough-town, is a very antient one, and, 'tis said, was built by a *British* Prince, called *Caer Bladdon*. It was formerly defended by Walls, and a large strong Castle, which was raised afterward, to enlarge the Abbey, which was very famous, and the greatest in *Wiltshire*: the Abbat sat in Parliament. Here King *Athelstane* was buried, and they still shew his Tomb. Vast Piles of Buildings were pulled down at the Dissolution; but the Church of the Abbey was saved,

aved, a great Part of which still remains, and is used as the Parish-church. It is a Corporation governed by a *Justice*, who is an annual Magistrate, and called *The Alderman*. It has a good Market weekly. The Town is neat, and lies on the River *Avon*. It is also famous for being the Birth-place of *William of Malmsbury*, the Historian, and of that great Scholar, Philosopher, and Mathematician, *Hobbes*, &c. It also sends Two Members to Parliament.

Near this Town, Southward, on the same River, lies the Village of *Dantsey*, which, tho' but an obscure Place, has given Title of Honour to many eminent Persons, and, among the rest, to *Henry Danvers*, created Baron of this Place by King *James I.* tho' by *K. Charles I.* made Earl of *Danby*. He had distinguished himself in *Queen Elizabeth's Irish Wars*, was as good as great, and died with Glory; but his Brother and Heir, having sat, ungratefully, a Judge on that very King who made his Brother Earl, was, at the Restoration, attainted of High Treason, and this his Manor of *Dantsey* given to *James* then Duke of *York*; who settled it, in Dowry, on his second Consort. On his Abdication, it became a second time forfeited; and King *William* conferred it on *Charles Lord Mordaunt*, late Earl of *Peterborough* and *Monmouth*, in whose Family it still remains. But as there are some other Things more than ordinarily particular, relating to this Manor, I shall enlarge a little upon it.

The whole Parish of *Dantsey* consists of this Manor only; and not a Foot of Ground in it belongs to any other Person: it is altogether Pasture, and, indeed, very rich. The Inhabitants, who are all Tenants of the Manor, make most excellent Cheese, not at all inferior to that of *Cheddar*, which is the only Commodity in the Place; for the late Lord would not permit the Grounds to be plowed up: and, I believe, there is not an Acre, in the Parish, of arable Land, tho' the Tenants have offer'd a considerable Advance of Rent,
for

for Liberty to break up the Ground; which, indeed, seems to want it, and would be much better'd by the Plough: nor would his Lordship, for some Years before his Death, renew a Life upon it, either by Lease or Copyhold, except as many of the last, as would keep up the Homage, and the Rights of the Manor: and the Reason of this was, not only to get a clear Rack-rent Estate in it, but to prevent the Cheats and Impositions which the Copyhold Tenants of the Manor put upon their Lord. For as every Widow has her Life in her Husband's Copyhold after his Death, if she continues sole and continent; 'tis a very common thing; there for an old Man on his Death-bed, to marry a young Woman, who privately contracts to give Part of the Profits of the Copyhold, or some Consideration for it, to the Husband's Relations; and not seldom selects, for a Bedfellow for herself, one of her favourite Men-servants.

The Abuse which accrued from granting Leases on Lives is this; That whereas a Person takes a Lease for Three Lives, *viz.* his own, his Wife's, and his Son *John's*; to defraud the Lord of the Manor, he names all his Sons *John*: so that, as long as any of the Sons live, *John* in the Lease never dies.

By these Frauds, the Earl, who was none of the best Oeconomists, and lived remote from this Place, suffered considerably, tho' he could not find out how; but frequently complain'd, That his Lessees, and his Copyhold-Widows, were very long-lived: and, in an humorous Way, us'd to recommend his Manor of *Dantsey* to all such as were apprehensive of dying.

As all in the Parish were his Tenants, and had an Interest in the Fraud, they combined against him, so that he could get no Intelligence of it: and tho' his Lordship enjoyed the Manor ever since the Revolution; yet, by reason of its being then full-estated, that is, all lett out upon Lives then actually subsisting, and

continued by the above-mentioned Frauds, his Lordship received no great Benefit out of it till some few Years before his Death; when he came to a Resolution not to renew, tho', when all the Lives drop in, his Manor will, at a Rack-rent, amount to, at least, 1000 *l.* a Year.

There is a large old Mansion-house here, lying just in the River, with Gardens formed after the Manner of those at *Parsons-green*; but it is not a kindly Place for ripening Fruit, and the Grounds lie very low and marshy, being all of a stiff Clay, and yet very good Pasture.

Here is also a fine Park, well timber'd, but without Deer.

His Lordship had once a Design to improve this Mansion-house and Estate, and resided here in 1705. when he was called to Court, and sent to command the Queen's Forces in *Spain*, where his Conduct, and great Services to his Country, are too well known, to need mentioning here.

Tho' this Place is often overflowed with Water, yet there is none good, either for Brewing or Washing; or any Spring of sweet Water.

Here is a Spring of a chalybeat Kind, which would turn to good Account, were it not in such a distant, and an almost inaccessible Part of the Country, occasioned by bad Roads, which were a great Protection to the Inhabitants in the late Civil Wars, who were never visited by either Party, but enjoyed an easy and uninterrupted Repose; whilst their Neighbours, on all Sides, were involved in the Calamities of that unnatural War.

Here is likewise a good neat Church, with one of the best-built, high, square Towers, I ever saw; raised at the Expence of one of the Lords of *Dantsey*, probably the afore-mentioned *Henry*, who lies buried here under a very large magnificent Tomb. Here likewise is interred Lieutenant-General *Lewis Mor-*
daunt,

daunt, a Brother of the late Earl, a Gentleman noted for his great Wit, Humour, and polite Conversation; as, indeed, all his Brothers were, as well as his Lordship.

Chippenham is a corporate good Market-town, likewise on the River *Avon*, over which it has a Bridge of 16 Arches, famous for the Residence and Resort of many of the *West-Saxon* Kings, particularly *Alfred*. Here is a very magnificent Church; and near this Place, formerly, was a famous Forest. This Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

Bradford is a Market-town, and has a Bridge over the *Avon*. 'Tis well-built of Stone, and lies on the Side of an Hill.

Trubridge is an antient Market-town, and had formerly a Castle of Seven Towers, but long since destroyed. The Court of the Duchy of *Lancaster*, for this County, is annually held here.

Westbury is a little Borough Market-town, but was formerly of great Note; and even now returns Two Members to Parliament. Some Quantities of *Roman* Coins have been found here.

Warminster is noted, as I have said, for the prodigious Quantity of Corn, which is sold in it every Market-day. Upon the Downs, near this Town, are Two antient Camps, suppose to be *Danish*.

It is observable, that these Five last Towns belong'd antiently to the Family of the *Hungerfords*, which, in King *Edward IV.*'s Reign, came by Marriage to the Lord *Hastings*; who being executed in *Richard III.*'s time, this vast Estate was given by that King to *John Howard*, Duke of *Norfolk*, first Earl-Marshal of that Family in *England*.

Near *Warminster* is the famous Forest of *Selwood*, called, by the antient Britons, *Coedmaur*, i. e. *Great-wood*. It is 15 Miles in Length, and very thick of Wood.

Mere, which in the old *Saxon* signifies *Boundary*, as this

this Place seems to be on the Borders of *Wilts*, *Somerset*, and *Dorset*, is but a Village, and yet gives Name to the Hundred where it stands. It has neither Fair nor Market in it; but it had, antiently, a Castle. Not far from this Place is an old *Danish* Camp call'd *Whites-hole hill*. Sir *Francis Cotton*, who flourished in the Reign of King *James*, and afterwards of *Charles I.* was born here.

A little South-east of *Mere* lies *Hindon*, a small Borough and Market-town, which sends Two Members to Parliament; and North-east of it stands *Heightsbury*, a Town formerly noted for an Hospital; and still for sending Two Members to Parliament.

Lavington is also a little more North-east, a very indifferent Market-town.

The *Devizes*, where we entered this County, is excellently situated, about Two Miles from the Bottom of the Hills, which keep off the Eastern Winds, and in a rich Soil. Under the Hill, at *Runway*, is an excellent Spring, which the Inhabitants have not yet found Means to convey thither, tho' it runs but a little way off the Town, where they want Water. It is a very large old Town, consisting chiefly of Two long parallel Streets, the Houses mostly of Timber, but of a very good Model. The Inhabitants value themselves for being Tenants to the King, and for one of the best weekly Markets in *England*. The Castle was originally *Roman*, judiciously seated upon a natural Fortification; but in After-times made, in a manner, impregnable by *Roger*, a Bishop of *Salisbury*, tho' in 1751. the Materials were all gone; and Two Windmills have been erected in their stead. Here are Two Churches. The Choir of *St. Mary's* is of a very old Model, as are the Steeple, Choir, and both Wings of *St. John's*, to which Additions have been made, and new wide Windows, with pointed Arches, in the room of the antient, narrow, semicircular ones.

Just out of Town is a pretty Plain called *the Green*,
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with another handsome Church and Steeple, Suburbs to the old Town. Here *William Cadby*, a Gardener, dug up his Collection of Gods, which he carried about for a Shew. They were found in a Garden, in a Cavity, inclosed with *Roman Brick*. The *Venus* is of an excellent Design; and the *Vestal Virgin*, as they call it, a Fragment of *Corinthian Brass*, and of very curious Workmanship. *Vulcan* is as lame as if made at a Forge. He had also several Coins found thereabouts, and a Brass *Roman Key*, which my Lord *Winchelsea* bought. *Roman Antiquities* are discovered here every Day. The same Nobleman has a Brass *Probus*; on the Reverse *Victoria Germ.* with a Trophy. A great Number of such Reliques is to be met with all round the Country.

Calne is a little Town, situate on a stony Hill, and very antient; and is supposed to have been one of the Seats of the *West-Saxon Kings*. It is a Borough-town, has a neat Church, and a good weekly Market. After a great Rain, in *November 1725*. the Waters rose so very high here, on a sudden, that they overflowed the Town, damaged a great Quantity of Goods, drowned Two Men in the Street, and carried off a Cask of Oil of 100 Gallons, which could not be found for several Days after. A great Parcel of *Roman Coins* were dug up here formerly. Here was, likewise, antiently an Hospital of *Black Canons*.

I am now come into the Road to *Marlborough*. On the Downs, about Two or Three Miles from the Town, are abundance of loose Stones, lying scattered about the Plain, some whereof are very large, and appear to be of the same kind with those of *Stone-henge*, and some larger. They are called, by the Country-people, the *Grey Wethers*; and it must be confessed, that they look not unlike Sheep straggling upon the Downs, on a transient and distant View, as Travelers pass. These *Grey Wethers*, on a more curious Inspection, are found to be a sort of white Marble, and lie upon the Surface of the Ground in infinite Numbers, and

and of all Dimensions. They are loose, detached from any Rock, and, as Dr. *Stukeley* thinks, lay there ever since the Creation; being solid Parts thrown out to the Surface of the fluid Globe, when its Rotation was first impressed.

Marlborough, so called from its Hills of Chalk, which antiently was called *Marl*. It is the *Cunetia* (from *Kenet*) of the *Romans*; but from the Coming of the *Saxons* to the Conquest, there is no Mention of it. It is governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgeses; is well-built, and sends Two Members to Parliament. It consists chiefly of One broad and strait Street. To the South are some Relics of a Priory; the Gate-house still remaining. On the North, the Chapel of another Religious House remains, now turned into a Dwelling-house. The Seat of the late Duke of *Somerset* was the Site of the *Roman Castrum*; for there they find Foundations, and *Roman Coins*: and towards the River, without the Garden-walls, one Angle of it very manifestly remains; and the Rampart and Ditch intire. The Road going over the Bridge cuts it off from the present Castle. The Ditch is still 20 Feet wide, in some Parts. The Mount, so much noted, was the Keep of the Castle; and is now made into a pretty spiral Walk, on the Top of which is an octagonal Summer-house, from whence you have a pleasant View over the Town and Country. This Seat is newly converted into an Inn: the Furniture is lett with it; and, together, complete the most magnificent House of Entertainment in *Europe*. The Town has, at present, a pretty good Shop-keeping Trade, but not much of the manufacturing Part. The River *Kennet*, some Years ago made navigable by Act of Parliament, rises just by this Town; from whence running to *Hungerford* and *Newbury*, it becomes a large Stream, and, passing by *Reading*, runs into the *Thames* near that Town. This River is famous for Crayfish which they

help Travellers to at *Newbury*; but they seldom want for Price.

At *Abury*, near *Marlborough Downs*, in the Way to *Bath*, are to be seen the stupendous Remains of a *Druid Temple*; being a Collection of monstrous Stones, of the like Nature with those of *Stone-henge*, and brought together from the Downs for the same religious Purposes, as Dr. *Stukeley* makes no Question.

On the Hills on this Side the *Devizes* is *Roundway Down*, where the King's Forces, under Prince *Maurice*, but owing chiefly to the Lord *Wilmot*, beat, and intirely routed, the famous Sir *William Waller*, in the Civil Wars; from whence the Place is called, by some, *Run-away Down*, to this Day.

A little nearer towards *Marlborough* is *St. Anne's Hill*, where, notwithstanding several high Hills between, and the Distance of 22 Miles, or more, is a fair View of *Salisbury Steeple*, or *Spire*, which is deem'd the highest in *England*.

At *Badmington* in *Wiltshire* have been found *Nine Caves*, all in a Row, but of different Dimensions, the least of them Four Feet wide, some Nine or Ten Feet long, Two long Stones being set upon the Sides, and the Top covered with broad Stones. Spurs, Pieces of Armour, and the like, have been found in these Caves; which gives Ground to believe, that they were Tombs of some antient Warriors, *Romans*, *Saxons*, or *Danes*.

In our Way from *Marlborough* to *Newbury*, we mounted a chalky Hill (of which sort is much of the Soil of *Wilts*), on the Top of which we entered into *Savernack Forest*, which belonged to the late Earl of *Ailesbury*; and is almost the only privileged Ground of Hunting, of that Denomination, possessed by a Subject. It is in Circumference about Twelve Miles, plentifully stocked with Deer of a large Size, and rendered very pleasant and delightful by the many Walks and *Vistas* lately cut and leveled through the several Coppices
and

and Woods with which it abounds. Eight of these Vistas meet like so many Rays of a Star, in a Point near the Middle of the Forest, where his Lordship prepared and cleared the Ground for erecting an Octagon Tower, whose Sides were to be correspondent to the Vistas; thro' one of which we have a View of the Seat, at about Two Miles Distance, called *Tottenham*, from a Park of that Name, in which it is situate, contiguous to the Forest.

It is a stately Edifice, newly erected on the same Spot of Ground where stood an antient Palace, destroyed by Fire, of the Marquis of *Hertford*; afterwards Duke of *Somerset*, so justly celebrated for his steady Adherence, and powerful Assistance, to the Royal Cause, during the whole Course of the Civil Wars, from whom the Earl of *Ailesbury* was descended, by his Mother the Lady *Elizabeth*, Sister and Niece to the Two last Dukes of *Somerset*, of the elder Line.

To give you some Idea of the Grandeur and Magnificence of the Structure, it will be sufficient to observe, that it was begun, carried on, and finished, after the Model, and under the Direction, of our modern *Vitruvius*, the Earl of *Burlington*, who, to the Strength and Convenience of the *English* Architecture, has added the Elegance and Politeness of the *Italian* Taste.

The House has Four Towers, and Four Fronts, each of them diversly beautified and adorned; to which are now added Four Wings, wherein are Rooms of State, a noble and capacious Room for a Library, containing a judicious and large Collection of several thousand Books in all Languages, but especially the modern.

The Beauty and Delightfulness of the Buildings are much augmented by the large Canals, the spacious and well-planted Walks which surround it; one of which, leading to the *London* Road, extends Two Miles in Length.

About the same Distance from hence, on the opposite Side, are to be seen the Remains of a large House, the Seat of Sir *John Seymour*, Father of the unfortunate Protector, called *Wolf-Hall*; of which no more is standing than suffices for a Farm-house. Here King *Henry VIII.* as, Tradition goes, celebrated his Nuptials with the Lady *Jane Seymour*, and kept his Wedding-dinner in a very large Barn, hung with Tapestry on the Occasion: for Confirmation of which they shew you, in the Walls thereof, some Tenter-hooks, with small Pieces of Tapestry fasten'd to them: and between this Place and *Tottenham* there is a Walk, with old Trees on each Side, still known by the Name of King *Harry's Walk*.

From hence, continuing our Course Easterly, we came to a Borough-town, called *Great Bedwin*, which sends Two Members to Parliament, and which Dr. *Stukeley* takes to be the *Leucomagus* of *Ravennas*. It is an old Corporation, and gave Birth to the famous Dr. *T. Willis*, the Ornament of *English* Physicians. *Castle-Copse*, half a Mile from the Town South-east, was probably the *Roman Castle*; and *Havisdike*, a Camp of that People.

The Church is large and capacious, in which are some antient Monuments; particularly, one of a *Knight Templar*, call'd *Adam of Scott*, from a Manor of that Name in the Parish, with an Inscription not legible, and another of the above-mentioned Sir *John Seymour*, Father of the Protector; wherein we have an Account of the Names of all his Children, with their several Intermarriages and Deaths. The Church is very strongly built with Flint, and a Cement near as hard as themselves, in form of a Cross; in the Centre of which is erected an high Tower, containing a good Ring of Six very musical Bells.

Moving hence towards the North-east a little, we crossed the much-famed *Wansdyke*, a Work of prodigious Labour and Expence, and concluded, by most
Writers,

Writers, to be a Boundary of one of the Kingdoms of the *Heptarchy*, probably that of the *West-Saxons*, before its Inlargement by ineroaching on other Kingdoms. It may be traced from near *Bath*, all over the Downs; to this Place, where it turns its Course towards the Southern Coasts. It is supposed, by some, to derive its Name from *Woden*, one of the *Saxon* Deities.

Soon after we mounted a small Hill, of easy Ascent, on the Summit of which was erected, as Historians inform us, a fortified Place, the Residence of *Cissa*, a Viceroy of one of the *South-Saxon* Kings, from whom it derives its Denomination of *Chisbury*, or *Cisbury*; who also built *Chichester*, for the Resort of his People, as he did this for the Repose of himself. It seems to have been strongly fortified, being surrounded with a double Ditch or Mote, of considerable Depth and Breadth, and full of Water: since which time there has been a Religious House here, the Chapel of which is still remaining, but converted into a Barn.

From hence we returned to the great *London* Road, and soon arrived at a Village called *Froxfield*, about Seven Miles from *Marlborough*; in which is an handsome and well-endowed Alms-house, founded by *Sarah* Duchess Dowager of *Somerset*, Relict of *John*, the last Duke of the elder Branch of the noble Family of *Seymours*, descended from the great Duke of *Somerset*, Protector of the King and Kingdom during the Minority of King *Edward VI.* This Lady bequeathed by her Will above 2000 *l.* for the Building and Furniture of this Alms-house, and devised several Manors, Messuages, and Farms, for the Maintenance of Thirty poor Widows not having 20 *l. per Ann.* to subsist upon; one Half of which are Widows of Clergymen, and the other of Laymen; giving a Preference to those, of the last Sort, who live on the Manors so devised by her. She left in her Will particular Directions for the Form, Dimensions, and Site, of the Structure; and for the

Manner of electing, ruling, and providing for the Widows; which her Executors, especially Sir *William Gregory*, who chiefly took upon him the Execution of the Trust, punctually observed.

The Building is neat and strong, in the Form of a Quadrangle, having one Front, and a Court before it, facing the Road. It contains Thirty Ground-rooms, and as many Chambers, one of each sort being allowed to every Widow, for her Apartment, with an Area, or Bed, in a Garden, on the North Part of the Building, inclosed with a Brick-wall.

In the midst of the Quadrangle is built an handsome and convenient Chapel, furnished with a Communion-table, Pulpit, Desk, Pews, and Books, for the Use of the Widows; wherein the Chaplain, whose Stipend is 30 *l. per Ann.* is to read Prayers every Day, and to preach on *Sundays*; and, for his further Encouragement, is to be presented, on a Vacancy, to the Rectory of *Kemish*, in the same County, which the Dukes has appropriated to that Use. Besides the yearly Pension in Money, which is now about Eight Guineas, she hath also ordered a Cloth Gown, with a certain Quantity of Wood every Winter, to each of the Widows: and when the Estates which she has given to the said Alms-house (many of which are now demised upon Leases for Lives) shall fall in, and shall produce a clear yearly Income of more than 400 *l.* she hath appointed additional Lodgings to be built for the Reception of Twenty more Widows, who are to be placed on the same Establishment, elected, and provided for, in the same manner as the Thirty former; and then all the Rents and Profits of the said Estates (the Salary for the Chaplain and a Steward being first deducted) shall be distributed, in equal Shares and Proportions, between the Fifty Widows.

The Produce of all the Estates devised to this, and another charitable Use which I shall mention by-and-by,

by, upon the Determination of the Leases granted, will, according to the best Information I could get, amount to little less than 1000 *l. per Ann.*

The same charitable Lady, to make Provision for the helpless Young, as well as destitute Old, has also bequeathed a considerable yearly Sum for the apprenticing of Ten or Twelve Children; in which a Preference is to be given to such as were born in her Manors.

We next visited *Hungerford* in *Berks*, a little Market-town, situate in a moorish Place, remarkable only for being a great Thoroughfare to *Bath* and *Bristol*; and for Plenty of Trout and Crayfish. It is governed by a Constable, who is chosen annually, and for the Time being is Lord of the Manor. From this Time the ancient Family of the Barons of *Hungerford* took their Name and Title. The first of the Family was the first Speaker of the House of Commons, in 51 *Edw. III.* They possessed a vast Estate this Way, and in all the neighbouring Counties, which was twice forfeited, for their Attachment to the House of *Lancaster*. This vast Estate fell, by a Daughter, to the famous Lord *Hastings*, who was executed in the Reign of *Richard III.* when *John Howard*, first Duke of *Norfolk*, had a Grant of it from that Prince; who falling with his Master in the Battle of *Bosworth-Field*, King *Henry VII.* restored it, with the Honour, to a younger Branch of the *Hungerfords*, who had joined him, and shared in the Glory of that Victory. But one of his Descendants suffered Death for Treason, 31 *Henry VIII.* tho' Queen *Mary* restored them again. He was the Third of the Family who died for Treason: such Vicissitudes attended this noble Family, and their great Estate.

John of *Gaunt* granted to the Town's-people the Liberty of the Royal Fishing within certain Bounds in

the River, and confirmed it by a Can, that holds about a Quart; which is shewn to this Day.

We pursued the great Road, and arrived at *Newbury*, situate in a most fruitful Plain, and watered by the River *Kennet*, which is made navigable up to the Town, which carries on a very great Trade in Malt, &c. with *London*. It is governed by a Mayor, High-Steward, Aldermen, and Burgessees. The Streets are spacious, and the Market-place large, where there is a great Store of Corn sold; and an Hall, for the Business of the Corporation, stands in it.

Here is also a good Charity-school, for Forty Boys; endowed with 65 *l.* a Year.

Near this Town was a double Scene of Blood; for here were Two obstinate Battles, fought at different Times, between the King's Army and the Parliament's; King *Charles* being present at them both, and both were fought almost upon the same Spot of Ground; the first on the 20th of *September* 1643. and the other on the 27th of *October* 1644. In these Two Battles it was observed, by an experienced Soldier, who served in the King's Army, that the Generals on both Sides shewed the most exquisite Skill in the managing, posting, bringing up, and drawing off, their Troops; and the Men fought with equal Bravery. In the first of these Battles the Success was doubtful, and both Sides claimed the Advantage: in the last, the King's Army had apparently the worst of it; and yet the King in a very few Days, with a great Body of Horse, brought off his Cannon, which he had, in the Close of the Battle, thrown into *Dunnington* Castle, and carried them away to *Oxford*, the Head-Quarter of his Army: and this he did in the Sight of the victorious Army, facing them at the same time with a Body of 6000 Horse: they, on the other hand, not thinking fit to draw out to attack him. That Retreat, in point of Honour, was equal to a Victory; and gave new Courage, as well as Reputation, to the King's Troops.

Part of *Newbury* is also known by the Name of *Spinham-lands*; for it arose out of the Ruins of an old Town called *Spine*, the Remains of which now join to *Newbury*; in respect to which it was called *New Borough*, and, for Shortness, *Newbury*. It is noted, among other Things, for Two or Three good Inns, where Travelers are well accommodated.

This Town of *Newbury* was an antient Clothing Town, tho' now little of that Business remains to it; but it still retains a manufacturing Genius, and the People are generally employed in making Shalloon; which, tho' it be used only for the Lining and Insides of Mens Cloaths, yet it becomes so generally worn, both at Home and Abroad, that it is increased to a Manufacture by itself, and is more considerable than any single Manufacture of Stuffs in the Nation. This employs the Town of *Newbury*, as also *Andover*, a Town I have already described, Vol. I. p. 276. and many others in different Counties of *England*:

Here began the Reformation, as Dr. *Twisse* intimates, by calling his Hearers *the First-fruits of the Gospel*. This is certain, that in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* here was a Society of about 200 Persons, who worshipped God privately, but were at last betrayed; when 140 of them abjured, and some were burnt: among whom was *Thomas Man*, recorded in *Fox's Acts and Monuments*.

Here lived the famous *Jack of Newbury*, the greatest Clothier that ever was in *England*; having 100 Looms at Work in his own House. He flourished in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* and marched at the Head of 100 of his own Men, all cloathed in an Uniform, and maintained by himself, to the Battle of *Flodden-Field*, where he behaved well. He rebuilt Part of *Newbury Church*, and the whole Tower of it. This is one of the Two Legatee Towns (as they were called) in the Will of the famous Mr. *Kenrick*; who, being the Son of a Clothier of *Newbury*, and afterwards a Merchant in *London*,

don, left 4000 *l.* to *Newbury*, and 7500 *l.* to *Reading*, to encourage the Clothing Trade, and to set the Poor at Work, besides other Gifts, of extraordinary Value, to the Poor.

This Gentleman's Will is to be seen at large in *Stow's Survey of London*, to which I refer.

What Improvement the Towns of *Newbury* and *Reading* have made of these great Sums, I did not inquire into.

Near *Newbury* the late Earl of *Craven* built a very stately Pile of Buildings, for his own Dwelling, called *Spine*; but as it was never quite finished, so I do not understand, that his Lordship ever came to live in it: and some Years ago it was, by a sudden Fire, burnt down to the Ground. It was reported, that that Lord built this magnificent Palace (for such it really was) at a time when he had Hopes of marrying *Madame Royale*, as she was then called, viz. the Queen of *Bohemia*, Sister to King *Charles I.* who, then a Widow, lived under the Shadow of the *English* Court: but, being frustrated in that View, the Earl went no farther in his Building. But his present Lordship has lately rebuilt this House; and, tho' not in so grand a manner as the former, it is very commodious.

Westward, a little out of our Way, we visited the Ruins of the Castle of *Donnington*, which was seated on the Brow of an high Hill, washed by the little River *Lambourn*; and had been the Seat of Sir *Geoffrey Chaucer*, Father of *English* Poetry. They shew us a Place here, where, in his Days, as well as many Years since, even down to the Memory of some of the Inhabitants now living, flourished a great Oak, called *Chaucer's Oak*, where, they tell you, he used to sit, and compose his Poems.

This Castle was garisoned by King *Charles I.* and defended, by its Governor Sir *John Boys*, against Major-General *Middleton*, Colonel *Horton*, the Earl of *Manchester*,

Manchester, and the Earl of *Essex*, of the Parliament's Side.

We went forward to the Town of *Lambourn*, so called from the River which runs down and falls into the *Kennet*, near *Thatcham*. There are Two Places so called, and distinguished by the Name of the *Upper* and *Lower*. The *Lower Lambourn* is the largest, and has been a Market-town ever since the Reign of K. *Henry III*. The River *Lambourn* is remarkable for being very low in Winter, and high in Summer: it goes off about *Michaelmas*; and the sooner it goes, the more plentiful, say the Inhabitants, will that Year be.

At *Newbury* we quitted the high Road, and, being desirous to see something of the North of *Berkshire*, we struck up to *Islip*, which, tho' but an inconsiderable little Town, yet has a good weekly Market for Sheep.

We passed North-westward to *Wantage*, the Capital of an Hundred so called, a Town of some Antiquity, pretty good, and neat. It is noted for being the Birth-place of the renowned King *Alfred*, and is watered by the *Och*. On *Sinodun Hill*, in the Time of the *Romans*, was a strong Castle. The Plough frequently, to this Day, turns up *Roman Coins*, and other Antiquities.

From *Wantage* we advanced into the fine and fertile *Vale of Whitehorse*, which extends almost from *Farringdon* to *Abingdon*, tho' not in a direct Line. Looking South from the *Vale*, we see a Trench cut on the Side of an high green Hill in the Shape of an Horse, and not ill done. The Trench is about a Yard deep, and filled almost up with Chalk; so that, at a Distance, you see the exact Shape of a *white Horse*, so large, as takes up near an Acre of Ground. From this Figure the Hill is called *Whitehorse Hill*, and the *Vale* below takes also its Name. 'Tis said to be done in order to commemorate a signal Victory; and some give it to the

the Saxons, whose Device was, and still is, a white Horse.

Westward of this Vale, lies *Ashbury*, betwixt which and *Wantage* is a very large Camp on the Brow of an Hill: 'tis single-work'd, and of a quadrangular Form, which shews it a *Roman Work*.

The neighbouring Parish to this *Whitehorse* have a Custom annually, at *Midsummer*, to go and weed it, in order to keep it in Shape and Colour; and, when they have done their Work, they end the Day in Feasting and Merriment.

We arrived at *Farringdon*, noted for its pleasant Situation on an Hill. It has a very good Market weekly, and is very neat and clean. In this Place may be seen the Ruins of a Castle, built by *Robert Earl of Gloucester*, in King *Stephen's* Reign: here was also a Priory of *Cistercian* Monks. The Church is large, and handsome.

From hence we went partly by the Forest to *Abingdon*, an handsome well-built Town, where the Assizes and Sessions, and other public Meetings of the County, are sometimes held. Here is a stately Market-house, built on high Pillars. It is of most curious Ashler Workmanship, and may claim the Pre-eminence of any other in *England*. Over it is a large Hall for the Assize. The Town consists of several well-paved Streets, which centre in an open and spacious Place, where the Corn-market is kept. They make great Quantities of Malt here, and send it by Barges to *London*. Here is a good Free-school, and also a Charity-school, founded *Anno 1563*. by *John Royse*. The Corporation is governed by a Mayor, Two Bailiffs, and Nine Aldermen; and returns One Member only to Parliament.

It is an antient Town, and was famed for Religious Houses in the Time of the antient Britons. It was also famous for having several Synods held there, and for one of the noblest Abbeys in the Kingdom; founded

ed, as it is said, by *Heane*, Nephew to *Cissa*, Father to King *Ina*. *Henry I.* was educated in this Monastery. Here are Two Churches, and there was formerly a very fine Cross, which was destroyed in the late Civil Wars.

We next came to *Wallingford*, called, by the antient Britons, *Gwal Hen*, i. e. *Old Fort*; a Place of great Figure, as well in their Days, and of the Romans, as of the Saxons and Danes; the last of whom destroyed it in 1006. but it was soon rebuilt, and esteemed a Borough, in the *Confessor's* time. It has been defended by a strong Castle, which has been long since demolished. It is still a large well-built Town, has a good Market-place and Town-hall, where the Assizes have been sometimes held, and a Quarter-session for the Borough always. It has still two Churches standing, but one was very much damaged in the Civil Wars, when Two others here were altogether destroyed. It has Two weekly Markets, and is governed by a Mayor, Burgeses, &c. and returns Two Members to Parliament.

Leland records, That *Richard* of *Wallingford*, Abbat of *St. Albans*, was born here. He was a famous Mathematician, and the Inventor of a Clock that shewed not only the Course of the Sun, Moon, and Fixed Stars, but the Ebbing and the Flowing of the Sea.

The Village of *Aston* is famous for a Battle fought there *Anno 871.* between the Danes and the Saxons; in which the latter were routed by *Ethelred*, and his Brother *Alfred*.

Here we cross'd the *Thames* into *Oxfordshire*; and leaving *Wathington*, a little inconsiderable Market-town on the Left, we fell down thro' *Netlebed* (likewise a Town of little Note) to *Henley upon Thames*, a very antient Town, the Name being derived from the British Word *Hen-lley*, i. e. *Old Place*. It was formerly

merly Part of the Estate of the Barons of *Hungerford*, mentioned before. It is now a Corporation of great Account, governed by a Warden, Burgeſſes, and other Officers. It has a conſiderable Corn and Malt-market. The Inhabitants are moſtly Maltſters, Mealmen, and Bargemen; who, by carrying Corn and Timber to *London*, get a gainful Living, and enrich the Neighbourhood. It has a good Free Grammar-school, and alſo a Charity-school, liberally endowed, for teaching, cloathing, and apprenticing, ſeveral poor Children: here is alſo an Alms-house, but meanly endowed; for tho' there are not above Six or Seven Perſons in it, they have but Sixpence apiece weekly, for their Allowance.

We return'd, over a wooden Bridge, into *Berkſhire*: and as *Thatcham*, *Woolhampton*, and *Theale*, which lie between *Newbury* and *Reading*, are, at preſent, noted only for being great Thoroughfare-towns, and full of Inns, we went no farther back than *Reading*.

Reading is ſo call'd from the *British Word Rhedin*, i. e. *Fern*, which formerly grew in great Quantity there. It is a very large and wealthy Town, handsomely built, the Inhabitants rich, and driving a very great Trade: the Town is ſituated on the River *Kennet*, but ſo near the *Thames*, that the largeſt Barges which they uſe, may come up to the Town-Bridge, where they have Wharfs to load and unload them. Their chief Trade is by this River-navigation to and from *London*; tho' they have neceſſarily a great Trade into the Country, for the Conſumption of the Goods which they bring by their Barges from *London*; and, particularly, Coals, Salt, Grocery-wares, Tobacco, Oils, and all heavy Goods.

They ſend from hence to *London*, by theſe Barges, very great Quantities of Malt and Meal; and theſe are the Two principal Articles of their Loadings. Some of theſe Barges are ſo large, that I was told, they bring

bring a thousand, or Twelve hundred Quarters of Malt a time; which, according to the ordinary Computation of Tonage in the Freight of other Vessels, is from an Hundred to an Hundred and Twenty Ton, dead Weight.

They also send very great Quantities of Timber from *Reading*: for *Berkshire* being a well-wooded County, and the River *Thames* a convenient Conveyance for the Timber, they transport the largest and finest of the Timber to *London*, which is generally bought by the Shipwrights in the River, for the building Merchant-Ships. The like Trade of Timber is carried on at *Henley* above-mentioned, and at *Maidenhead*; of which in its Place.

A large Manufacture of Sail-cloth was set up in *Reading* by the late Sir *Owen Buckingham*, Lord Mayor of *London*, and many of the poor People were profitably employed in it; but Sir *Owen* dying, and his Son being unhappily kill'd in a Duel a little while after, that Manufacture died also.

Here is, however, still a Remnant of the Woollen Manufacture, which was once carried on in it to a very considerable Degree; and this Town, as well as *Newbury*, has enjoyed the above-mentioned Legacies of Mr. *Kenrick*, to set the Poor at Work, and encourage the Clothing Trade; viz. 7500 *l*.

Mr. *Camden's* Continuator says, there were once 40 Master-Clothiers in this one Town; but now they are almost all gone. During the Civil Wars in *England*, this Town was strongly fortified; and the Remains of the Bastions, and other Works, are still to be seen.

There are Three Churches, *St. Mary's*, *St. Laurence's*, and *St. Giles's*, built of Flint, and square Stones, in the quincunx Fashion, with tall Towers of the same: here are also Two large Meeting-houses, besides that of the Quakers. *Camden* calls it a little City: it is said to contain about 8000 People, including

cluding a little Hamlet at the Bridge over the *Thames*. Archbishop *Laud* was born in this Town: his Father was a Clothier. That Prelate left considerable Legacies to young People of this Town, of both Sexes.

It was formerly noted for a very famous Abbey and other religious Foundations. The Parliament of *England* has sometimes been held in the Abbey. It stood in a charming Situation, and large Ruins of it are still visible, built of Flint: the Walls which remain are about Eight Feet thick, tho' the Stone that faced them is gone. What is left is so hard cemented, that the Labour, in separating them, would not be answered by their Use. There are many Remnants of arched Vaults, a good Height above-ground, whereon stood as may be presumed, the Hall, Lodgings, &c. The Abbey Gate-house is yet pretty intire.

This was built by King *Henry I.* on an old Abbey formerly erected by a *Saxon* Lady. That Prince was buried in it, with his Queen; but their Monuments are lost in the Ruins of the Place, and no-where to be found.

There was a famous old Castle, demolish'd by King *Henry II.* for being a Place of Refuge for King *Stephen's* Party.

The Empress *Maud*, Daughter of *Henry I.* was also buried here; but her Monument is lost, as well as the others.

The governing Part of this Corporation consists of Mayor, Twelve Aldermen, Twelve Burgeses, and other Officers. Four Fairs are annually held here on *Candlemas-day*, *May 1.* *St. James's-day*, and *Michaelmas*. *Reading* sends Two Members to Parliament.

The deceased Earl of *Cadogan*, who was created Baron of *Reading* by his late Majesty King *George I.* in 1710 built a fine large House at *Caversham* near *Reading* which his Successor, the present Lord *Cadogan*, thought fit to reduce to a smaller and more convenient Size;

fs regarding the outward Glare of Magnificence, than
se and Convenience.

At *Reading*, in the Year 1688. began the universal
alarm that spread over the whole Kingdom (almost at
the same time), of the *Irish* being coming to cut every
body's Throats; which was carried from Town to
Town by Peoples Fears and Terrors, aggravated by the
Menaces of an *Irish* Detachment of Soldiers, who were
eat out of *Reading* by the *Dutch*, and prevented taking
the Quarters they intended, at *Maidenhead*, *Colebrook*,
Stanes, &c.

It is impossible to express the Consternation of the
people all over *England* on this Occasion; for the ter-
rible Story spread (like the Undulations of the Water
on a Pond, when a flat Stone is cast upon the Surface)
all over the Kingdom, as I have said, in one Day; for
near gave Wings to the News: no Post could carry it
it flew from Town to Town; and still every Mes-
senger had Two Articles with him: 1. Not that such
and such Towns *were to be* burnt and plundered by them;
but that they *were already* burnt: and, 2. That the
Irish were at their Heels, to do the like there. And
the Service this Report did to the Cause of the Revolu-
tion, is hardly to be imagined.

Within less than a Furlong of the Town, to the
south-west, and within 100 Yards of the *Kennet*, on
a little rising Ground, called *Catsgrove-hill*, is a Stra-
m of Oysters Five or Six Inches thro' the Hill; many
of them large and intire, others decayed and moulder-
g.

Near *Wadly* is a Tree, which has contracted a pe-
fying Crust, about the Thickness of a Shilling, over
Part which has been lopped off with an Ax.

Twyford is about Five Miles East of *Reading*, and is
ly noted, like *Theale*, and the other Towns beyond
Reading, for its Number of Inns, for the Accommo-
dations of Carriers, &c.

Just

Just beyond *Theale*, is *Inglefield*, where King *Ethelwolf* routed the *Danes*.

From *Reading* I went to *Great Marlow* in *Buckinghamshire*; which, tho' not in the direct Road, yet lying on the Banks of the River *Thames*, is proper enough to be spoken of, as it sends Two Members to Parliament, and is particularly worth Notice for several other Things.

1. It is a Town of very great Embarkation on the *Thames*, not so much for Manufactures wrought here (for the Trade of the Town is chiefly in Bone-lace) but for Goods brought from the neighbouring Towns: a very great Quantity of Malt and Meal, particularly, being brought hither from *High Wickham*, which is one of the greatest Corn-markets on this Side of *England*, and lies on the Road from *London* to *Oxford*.

2. Between *High Wickham* and *Marlow*, is a little River called the *Loddon*, on which are a great many Corn-mills, and some Paper-mills: the first of these grind and dress the Wheat, and then the Meal is sent to *Marlow*, and put on board the Barges for *London*; and the second make great Quantities of ordinary Printing-paper.

3. On the *Thames*, just by the Side of this Town, tho' on the other Bank, are Three very remarkable Mills, called the *Temple-mills*, or the *Brass-mills*, for making *Bisham Abbey Battery-work*, as they call it, viz. Brass Kettles and Pans, &c. of all Sorts. And these Works were attended with no small Success, till in the Year 1720. they made a Bubble of it; and then it ran the Fate of all the Bubbles at that time.

4. Next to these are Two Mills, which are both an extraordinary kind; one, for making of Thimble, a Work which performs to Admiration; and another for pressing of Oil from Rape and Flax-seed; both which turn to very good Account to the Proprietors.

Hith

Hither is also brought down a vast Quantity of Beech-wood, which grows in *Buckinghamshire* more plentifully than in any other Part of *England*, and from hence the County itself derives its Name.

At *Bisham* in *Berks*, over-against this Town, was formerly an Abbey; and the Remains of it are still to be seen. The Estate belonged once to the *Knights Templars*, and since came to the antient Family of *Hobby*, hereof Sir *William Hobby*, and Sir *Edward Hobby*; the latter as having been employed by Queen *Elizabeth* in the most important reign Negotiations, as a learned Man, and great Antiquary. Their Monuments, with those of their Ladies and Children, are in the little Church of *Bisham*, and well worth seeing. The Seat of the Family is now in *Sorsetshire*; but hither they are generally all brought, when they die, to be buried with their Ancestors.

A little higher, on the same Side of the River, is *Turley*, an antient Seat of the late Lord *Lovelace*; but all the Male Branches of the Family being extinct, it came, by the Daughter and Heiress, to Sir *Henry Jo'nson*, of *Blackwell*, near *Ratcliffe*, who originally was only a Shipwright, or Master-builder, at the great Yard and Dock there, of which I shall speak in their place.

This Lady left only one Daughter, married to the late Earl of *Strafford*.

From hence we fell with the *Thames* into *Maidenhead*, and so came into the *London* Road again. It is an antient Corporation under the Government of an High-Steward, a Mayor, Steward, and Ten Aldermen; out of which they annually elect Two Bridge-masters to look after the large Timber Bridge which here crosses the *Thames*, for the Repair of which the Town has Three Trees annually allowed them, out of *Windsor* Forest. The Mayor for the Time being is Clerk of the Market, and Coroner; and he, and the Mayor

Mayor for the preceding Year, and the Steward, and Justices of the Peace: they choose yearly Two Macebearers. It is said to have had its Name from an Heath worshiped there before the Reformation, of one of the Eleven thousand Virgins, that, the Legends tell us were martyred with St. *Ursula*: yet it was incorporated, in the 26th of *Edward III.* by the Name of The Fraternity or Guild of the Brothers and Sisters of *Maiden-bith*. The Town is a large Thoroughfare with many good Inns in it, and has a good Market weekly every *Wednesday*. It lies in Two Parishes: one Part of it is in *Bray*, famous of old for its conforming Vicar to all Changes in Church and State; the other in *Cookham*: and the Barge-pier of the Bridge divides *Buckinghamshire* and *Berkshire*. The public Buildings are, the Bridge, and the Corporation-chapel; the Minister of which is chosen by the Inhabitants, and is not subject to Episcopal Visitation.

Not far from *Maidenhead*, at *Laurence-Walsham*, was a considerable Roman Fort. It stood in a Field now called *Weycock*, or *High-Road*; in which Roman Coins have been frequently plowed up.

As soon as you are out of *Maidenhead*, you see *Cliefden* on your Left, where *George Duke of Buckingham* began a magnificent and delightful Palace, which the late Earl of *Orkney* afterwards purchased of the Family, and finished; and had the Honour to be the Summer Retreat of his late Royal Highness *Frederick Prince of Wales*.

We came to *Slough*, a Village Five Miles East of *Maidenhead*, which consists almost intirely of Inns. They seem to vie with one another, and 'tis wonderful how they all subsist; and especially, as they are opposed by the Two famous new ones of the *Castle* and *Windmill*, a little Way out of *Slough*, which are much more delightfully situated, and have better Accommodations.

Here we left the Road, and turn'd to the Right, and on arrived at *Eton*, where is the finest School for Grammar Learning, that is in *Britain*, or, perhaps, in *Europe*.

The Buildings, except the great School-room, are ancient; the Chapel *Gothic*; but all has been repaired, at a very great Expence, out of the College-Stock, within these few Years, and a noble Library built for the Reception of Books.

In the great Court, a fine Statue is erected to the Honour of the Founder, by Dr. *Godolphin*, late Dean of *St. Paul's*, and Provost of this College; and the Library has received several considerable Benefactions; particularly, very lately, the fine Collection of *Richard Copham*, Esq; formerly Keeper of the Records in the Tower, which was presented to it by the late excellent Lord Chief Justice *Reeves*. And before that a Collection of Books, valued at 2000 *l.* was left to it by Dr. *Waddington*, late Bishop of *Chichester*.

The Gardens, which extend from the College down almost to the Bank of the *Thames*, are well planted and kept.

This College was founded by King *Henry VI.* a Prince munificent in his Gifts for the Encouragement of Learning. Witness, besides this noble Foundation, that of *King's College* in *Cambridge*, to which the Scholars of *Eton* are annually removed; and which, had it been perfected as he designed it, would have been the noblest Building of the Kind in the World. But his Successor and Deposer, King *Edward IV.* took several Manors from *Eton College*, and bestowed them on their Neighbours at *Windsor*; and had intended to have taken from them still more, had not the celebrated *Jane Shore* solicited in their behalf.

This College has a settled Revenue of about 5000 *l.* per Ann. and maintains a Provost, a Vice-provost, who is also a Fellow, Six other Fellows, and Seventy Scholars

Scholars on the Foundation, besides a full Choir for the Chapel, with necessary Officers and Servants. The School is divided into the upper and lower, and each into Three Classes; each School has One Master, and each Master Four Assistants, or Ushers. None are received into the upper School, till they can make *Latin* Verses, and have a tolerable Knowledge of the *Greek*. In the lower School the Children are received very young, and are initiated into all School-learning. Besides the Seventy Scholars upon the Foundation, there are always abundance of Children, generally speaking of the best Families, and of Persons of Distinction, who are boarded in the Houses of the Towns-men, and with in the College.

The Number of Scholars instructed here used to be from 400 to 500; but has not been, for several Years past, more than 320.

The Election of Scholars for the University, out of this School, is made annually, on the First *Tuesday* in *August*: in order to it, Three Persons are deputed, from *King's College* in *Cambridge*; viz. the Provost of that College, and One senior, and One junior Poser, Fellows of the same; who, being joined by the Provost, Vice-provost, and Head-master of *Eton College*, call before them the Scholars of the upper Class; and, examining them in the several Parts of their Learning, choose out Twelve such as they think best qualified, and enter them in a Roll, or List, for the University. These Youths are not immediately removed from the School, but must wait till Vacancies fall in *King's College*; and, as such happen, are then taken as they stand in Seniority in the Roll of Election.

When a Scholar from *Eton* comes to *King's College*, he is received upon the Foundation, and pursues his Studies there for Three Years: after which, he claims a Fellowship, unless forfeited by Marriage, accepting of ecclesiastic Preferments, &c. according to the Terms of the Statutes.

The Provost has a noble House and Garden, besides the Use of the College Gardens, at his Pleasure.

I am now come to *Windsor*, so called from its *winding* Banks, or *Shore*; where I must, for a while, quit the Subject of Trade and Navigation, in order to describe the most beautiful and pleasantly-situated Castle, and Royal Palace, in the whole Isle of *Great Britain*.

William the Conqueror was the first of our *English* Monarchs, who distinguished *Windsor*. That Prince, who delighted much in Hunting, finding it a Situation highly proper for that Purpose, and, as he said of it, a suitable Place for the Entertainment of Kings, agreed with the Abbat of *Westminster* for an Exchange, and so took Possession of it. He built a Castle here, and had several little Lodges, or Hunting-houses, in the Forest adjoining; and frequently lodged, for the Conveniency of his Sport, in an House which the Monks before enjoyed, near or in the Town of *Windsor*; for the Town is much more antient than the present Castle, and was an eminent Pass upon the *Thames* in the Reigns of the *Saxon* Kings.

Henry I. rebuilt and fortified it, summoning all his Nobility to attend him here, at *Whitsuntide*; in the sixth Year of his Reign. Here *Edward I.* had Four Children born by his Queen *Eleanor*, who took great Delight in this Situation: but it did not arrive at further Magnificence till the Reign of King *Edward III.* who, being called *Edward of Windsor*, because there born, and taking an extreme Liking to this Place, resolved to fix his Summer-residence here; and, accordingly, laid out, himself, the Plan of that magnificent Palace, which, as to outward Form and Building, we now see there: for whatever has been done, as to beautifying, altering, or amending, the Inside and Apartments; nothing has been added to the Building itself, except that noble Terrace, which runs under the North Front, and leads to the Green on the Park, at the East-

side or End of it, along which the fine Lodgings, and Royal Apartments, were at first built; all the North Part being then taken up in Rooms of State, and Halls for public Balls, &c.

The House itself was indeed a Palace, and without any Appearance of a Fortification; but when the Building was brought on to the Slope of the Hill on the Town-side, the King added Ditches, Ramparts, the Round Tower, and several other Places of Strength; and thence it was called a Castle.

Such a Pride did this great King take in being the Founder of this sumptuous Building, that when it was suggested to him, that *William of Wickham* had assumed the Honour of it to himself, it had like to have cost *William* all his Interest in the King's Favour, which at that time was very great; but the Prelate cleared himself, by disavowing the Charge; urging, that all he pretended to was to acknowledge, that the Money and the Reputation he had gained by building that Castle for the King, had been the Making of him. For it seems he had caused these Words,

THIS MADE WICKHAM,

to be cut in Stone in the inner Wall of the little Tower; which from him is, to this Day, called *Winchester Tower*.

William of Wickham, whom I have mentioned, in my Account of *Winchester*, Vol. I. p. 269. was, at that time, the Architect of the Court; and so well performed his Part, that in all the Decorations and Ornaments which have been made since, by succeeding Princes, they have found no Occasion to add to, or diminish any thing except it be to alter some small Matter at the Entrance to the great Stair-case, the Kitchen, and Offices below stairs, and such-like; but the great North and East Fronts, the Square of the inner Court, the great Gate at the Entering from the Town, with the Round Tower

ower, and the Walls annex'd, are all standing, in the very Form in which King *Edward III.* left them.

The only Addition in the Inside, is a fine Equestrian statue of King *Charles II.* which stands over the great Well, sunk, as may be supposed, in the first Building, for the Supply of the Castle with Water; and in which was an Engine for raising it, notwithstanding the great Depth, by very little Labour; the Contrivance and Performance of Sir *Samuel Morland*, an excellent Mechanic and Mathematician.

On the Out-side, as I have said, was added the Terrace-walk, by Queen *Elizabeth*, where she usually walked for an Hour every Day before her Dinner, if not hindered by windy Weather, of which she had a peculiar Dislike; for she loved to walk in a mild calm Rain, with an Umbrella over her Head.

This is a truly magnificent Work: for, as it is raised on a steep Declivity of the Hill, it was necessarily cut down a very great Depth, to bring the Foundation to a Flat equal to the Breadth, which was to be formed above. From the Foundation it was raised by solid Stone-work of a vast Thickness, with cross Walls of Stone, for banding the Front, and preventing any Thrust from the Weight of Earth within.

This noble Walk is covered with fine Gravel, and has Cavities, with Drains, to carry off the Water; so that not a Drop of Rain will rest on the Terrace, but it is dry, hard, and fit to walk on, immediately after the greatest Showers. The Breadth of this Walk is very spacious on the North-side; on the East-side it is narrower. Neither *Versailles*, nor any of the Royal Palaces in *France*, *Naples*, or *Rome*, can shew any thing like this. The Grand Seigneur's Terrace, in the outer Court of the *Seraglio* next the Sea, is what, I think, comes the nearest; and yet is not equal to it, if I may believe the Account of those who have seen it.

At the End of this Walk, leading into the Park, King *Charles I.* built a Gate ; and his Royal Successor adorned this august Palace with a well-ordered Magazine of Arms, many curious Paintings, and other Improvements, ; which were continued by King *James II.* and *William III.*

The Castle contains Two square Courts, with a Tower between them ; which some distinguish by the Name of so many Wards, as the higher Ward is the inner square Court, the middle Ward is the Tower, and the lower Ward is the outer square Court.

At the North-east Corner of this Terrace, where it turns South, to run on by the East-side of the Castle, are Steps, by which you go off upon the Plain of the Park, which is kept smooth as a Carpet, and on the Edge of which the Prospect of the Terrace is doubled by a Vista, South over the Park, and quite up to the great Park, and towards the Forest. Here also is a small Seat, that will not contain above One, or Two, at most, with an high Back, and Cover for the Head, which being fixed on a Pin of Iron or Brass, the Persons who sit in it may easily turn it from the Wind, however it may blow, and enjoy a complete Calm. This is said also to be Queen *Elizabeth's* Invention, to avoid being ruffled with the Wind ; and it affords no less Shelter from the Sun.

From this lofty Terrace the People within have an Egress to the Park, and to a most beautiful Walk, which neither King *Edward III.* nor his Successors, for some Hundreds of Years, knew any thing of ; all their Prospect being from the Windows of the Castle.

On that Side of the Building which looks out upon the Terrace, are all the Royal Apartments ; those of King *Edward III.* which were on the East-side, being now allotted to great Officers of State.

You mount into the Royal Apartments by several back Stairs, but the public Way is up a small Ascent to a Flat,

Flat, or Half-pace, where are Two Entries of State by Two magnificent Staircases; one on the Left-hand to the Royal Apartments, and the other on the Right, to *St. George's-hall*, and the Royal Chapel.

Before the Entrance to these, on either Side, you pass thro' the Guard-chambers, where you see the Walls furnished with Arms, and the King's Yeomen of the Guard keep their Station. These Rooms lead as well to the fine Lodgings, as to *St. George's-hall*.

In the Cieling is *Britannia* on a Globe, the *Indies* offering her Riches, and *Europe* presenting her with a Crown, surrounded with a Circle in Form of a Snake. These Chambers are adorned with a fine Picture of Prince *George* of *Denmark* on Horseback over the Chimney in one of them, and of *Charles XII.* King of *Sweden*, over the other. There are also the admirable Pieces of *Judith* and *Holofernes*, *Mary Magdalen*, the *Roman Charity*, the Murder of the *Innocents*, *Jupiter* and *Leda*, Fruit-pieces, &c. in the Dining-room; Canopies of State, which exceed Description, inestimable Pictures, in the Closet, and little Gallery; with that of *English Beauties*, which alone, says a Connoisseur in Painting, are worth a Stranger's coming to *England* to see.

In the Royal Lodgings there have been so many Alterations of Furniture, that there can be no entering upon a particular Description. In the Chimney-piece of one of these Apartments, is a Piece of Needle-work exquisitely fine, performed, as they say, by the Queen of *Scots*, during the time of her Confinement in *Fotheringay-castle*. There are several Family Pictures in the Chimney-pieces, and other Parts of those Lodgings, which are very valuable.

These Rooms look all out North towards the Terrace, and over Part of the finest and richest Vale in the World; which along the Course of the River *Thames*, with very little Interruption, reaches to, and includes, the City of *London* East, and the City of *Oxford*

West; the River, with a beautiful winding Stream, gliding gently thro' the Middle of it, and enriching, by its Navigation, both the Land, and the People, on every Side.

It may be proper to say something of the Beauties and Ornaments of *St. George's-hall*, tho' nothing can be said equal to what the Eye may be Witness to. It is very wide and long, and was originally used for the Entertainment of the Knights of the Garter, at their Installation. It is surprising, at the first Entrance, to see at the Upper-end the Picture of King *William* on Horse-back; under him an Ascent with Marble Steps, a Balustrade, and an Half-pace, which formerly was actually there, with room for a Throne, or Chair of State, for the Sovereign to sit on, when on public Days he thought fit to appear in Ceremony.

Here we may also admire the Picture of *Edward* the Black Prince, presenting the Kings of *France* and *Scotland*, his Prisoners, to his Father King *Edward III.* sitting on a Throne: nor would I pass over in Silence the Representation of the Triumphs of King *Charles II.* over Rebellion, and false Patriotism.

At the West-end of the Hall is the Chapel Royal, the neatest and finest of the kind in *England*: the carved Work is beyond any that can be seen in the Kingdom.

After we had spent some Hours in viewing all that was curious on this Side, we came down to the Dungeon, or *Round Tower*, which goes up a long, but easy, Ascent of Steps, and is very high. Here we were obliged to deliver up our Swords, but no-where else; tho' here is nothing curious. The Governor's or Constable's Lodgings are neatly furnished, but no-wise extraordinary.

From this Tower you see *St. Paul's Cathedral* at *London*, very plainly.

Coming down from hence, we entered into the other Court, where are the great Chapel of *St. George*, belonging

belonging to the Order of the Garter, and the House or College for the Poor Knights, as they are called.

I might go back here to the History of the Order of the Garter, the Institution of which by King *Edward* III. had its Original here: but this is done so fully in other Authors, that I shall only mention, That this Order was not founded on the Countess of *Salisbury's* Garter, as *Polydore Virgil* asserts; but on that martial King's own Garter, which he gave as the Signal at the glorious Battle of *Cressi*, as *St. George* was given for the Word of the Day. To commemorate which, he instituted this Order.

The first Knights, tho' not all Noblemen, were however Men of great Characters and Stations, either in the Army, or in the Civil Administration, and such as the Sovereign did not think it below him to make his Companions.

The lower Court of the Castle, although not so distinguished by Lodgings and Rooms of State, is nevertheless particularly glorious for the fine Chapel of the Order, a most beautiful and magnificent Work, and which shews the Greatness not only of the Court in those Days, but the Spirit and Genius of the magnanimous Founder. The Chapel is not only fine within, but the Workmanship without is extraordinary: nothing so antient is to be seen so beautiful. *King's-College* Chapel at *Cambridge*, built by *Henry VI.* and *Henry VII.'s* Chapel in *Westminster-Abbey*, are fine Buildings; but they are modern, compared to this, which was begun, as by the inscribed Dates upon the Walls appears, in the Year 1337.

The Coats of Arms, and the various Imagery and other Ornaments, both inside and outside, not only of the King, but of several of the first Knights Companions, are wonderfully finished; and the Work has stood out against the Injury of Time, to Admiration.

'Tis observable, that King *Edward* owns this Chapel was begun by his Ancestors; and some think it was

by King *Edward I.* and that he himself was baptized in it; and there was a Castle built by *William the Conqueror* also. As to the Chapel, which was then called a Church, or a Convent, King *Edward III.* did not pull down the old Building intirely; but he added all the Choir to the first Model, and several other proper Parts for the Purposes intended; as Houses and handsome Apartments for the Canons, Dignitaries, and other Persons belonging to the Church, which are generally situated on the North Side of the Square, out of Sight, or rather screened from the common View by the Church itself; which Dwellings are, notwithstanding, very good, and well accommodated for the Persons who are Possessors of them: then the King finished it, in the manner we now see it. As for the old Castle, the Building of *William the Conqueror*, the King pulled it down to the Foundation, forming a new Building according to the present Plan, and which stood, as above, to the time of King *Charles II.* without any Alteration.

The Establishment for this Chapel was very considerable, by the Donation of divers Subjects, before it was set apart to be the Chapel of the Order: the Duke of *Suffolk*, in particular, as appears in *Dugdale's Monasticon*, gave it 3000 Acres of Land, 19 Manors, 170 Messuages and Tofts, and several Advowsons of Churches; which, with other Gifts afterwards, made the Revenue above 1000 *l.* a Year in those Days, which was a prodigious Sum, as Money went at that time.

The Chapel is paved with Marble, and the Walls are painted with the Histories of the New Testament. The Altar-piece represents the Institution of the Eucharist, and the Cieling of the Chancel is illuminated with a View of our Lord's Ascension.

In the Choir are the Stalls for the Knights of the Order, with a Throne for the Sovereign; also, Stalls in the Middle of it, for Eighteen Poor Knights-Pensioners, who live in their House, or Hospital, on the South-

South-side of the Square or Court in which the Chapel stands. These Knights-Pensioners are cloathed in a red Cloth Cassock, and a purple Mantle, with a St. *George's* Cross on the Left Shoulder; and are obliged to go, cloathed in this manner, twice a Day to Church, to pray for the Sovereign and Knights of the most Noble Order of the Garter.

Here are to be seen the Banners of the Knights who now enjoy the Honour of the Garter: when they die, those Banners are taken down, and the Coat of Arms of the deceased Knight set up in the Place allotted for those Arms over the same Stall: so those Coats of Arms are a living History, or rather a Record, of all the Knights that ever have been since the first Institution of the Order, and how they succeeded one another: by which it appears, that Kings, Emperors, and Sovereign Princes, have not thought it below them to accept of the Honour of being Knights Companions of the Order; while, at the same time, it must be noted, to the Honour of the *English* Crown, that our Kings have never thought fit to accept of any of their Orders abroad, of what kind soever: whereas there is an Account, in the Registry of the Order, that there are reckoned up of this most noble Company,

8 Emperors of <i>Germany</i> .	2 Kings of <i>Naples</i> .
3 Kings of <i>Sweden</i> .	A King of <i>Arragon</i> .
5 Kings of <i>Denmark</i> .	3 Infants of <i>Portugal</i> .
2 Kings of <i>Prussia</i> .	A Prince of <i>Denmark</i> .
3 Kings of <i>Spain</i> .	A Bishop of <i>Osnabrug</i> .
6 Princes of <i>Orange</i> .	5 Princes of <i>Lunenburg</i> .
5 Kings of <i>France</i> .	An Elector of <i>Brandenburg</i> .
4 Peers of <i>France</i> .	
A King of <i>Scotland</i> , besides <i>James VI</i> .	7 Electors <i>Palatine</i> .
5 Kings of <i>Portugal</i> .	2 Electors of <i>Saxony</i> .
A King of <i>Poland</i> .	2 Dukes of <i>Lorrain</i> .
	3 Dukes of <i>Wirttemberg</i> .
	E 5 2 Dukes

2 Dukes of *Holstein*.
 2 Grandees of *Spain*.
 2 Dukes d' *Urbino*.

A Duke of *Savoy*.
 A Duke of *Saxe-Gotha*.
 A Prince of *Hesse*, &c.

Besides these Foreign Princes, there is a little *Galaxy* of *English* Nobility, the Flower of so many Courts, and so many Ages, to whose Families the Ensigns of the Order have been an Honour, and who are not the least Glory it has to boast of.

Several Kings, and Persons of high Rank, have been buried also in this Chapel; as *Edward IV.* and *Charles I.* Here also is the Family Burying-place of the Dukes of *Beaufort*, who are a natural Branch of the Royal Family of *Lancaster*.

All the Ceremonies observed here in the Instalment of the Knights, are so perfectly set down in Mr. *Ashmole's* History of the *Order of the Garter*, that nothing can be said but what must be a Copy from him.

As the upper Court and Building are fronted with the fine Terrace, so the lower Court, where this beautiful Chapel stands, is encompassed with a very high Wall, which goes round the West-end of the Court to the Gate; and looking South, leads into the Town, as the Gate of the upper Court looks likewise South-east into the little Park.

The Parks about *Windsor* are very agreeable and spacious: the little Park, as it is called, is above 3 Miles round, the great one 14, and the Forest above 30. The first is peculiar to the Court, the others are open for Riding, Hunting, and taking the Air, for any Gentlemen that please.

The Lodges in those Parks may be called Palaces, were they not eclipsed by the Palace itself. They have been beautified by the noble Persons to whom the Post of Rangers has been generally assigned, who, having been enriched by other Advancements, Honours, and profitable Employments, thought nothing too much to lay out to adorn their Apartments, in a Place wherein
 it

it was so much to their Honour, as well as Convenience, to reside: such is *Cranburne* Lodge belonging once to the Dukes of *Marlborough*, now held by his Royal Highness the Duke.

As for the Town of *Windsor*, it has belonged to the Crown ever since the Conquest. It contains several Streets, some of which lie about the Castle; but the principal looks Southward, and is adorned with very good private Buildings, and an handsome Town-hall, built in the Reign of King *Charles II.* It arose out of the Ruins of *Old Windsor*, which decayed, in proportion as the new one advanced under the Site of the Royal Palace and Castle. It was constituted a free Borough by King *Edward I.* with many Privileges, which it enjoys at present. The Corporation consists of a Mayor, Two Bailiffs, and Twenty-eight others chosen out of the Inhabitants, Thirteen of whom are called *Fellows* or *Bencher*s of the *Guildhall*; and Ten of these are stiled *Aldermen*, or *Chief Bencher*s, out of whom the Mayor and Bailiffs are chosen. This Town returns Two Members to Parliament. Every *Wednesday* it has a Market, and Two Fairs in the Year.

In the Forest of *Windsor* are situated the Towns of *Ockingham* and *Wargrave*, and the fine Houses of *Cranburne* above-mentioned, and *Swallowfield*: the former is a Lodge built by the Earl of *Ranelagh*, and the latter was a Seat of the Earl of *Clarendon*.

Ockingham is a pretty large and well-frequented Market-town on *Wednesdays*. It has Three Fairs, and contains several Streets, a Free-school, an Hospital, and a Market-house, which stands in the Centre. It is governed by an Alderman, Recorder, and Capital Burgeses; and is chiefly supported by a Manufacture of Cloth, and Silk Stockens.

Wargrave, tho' now much neglected, was formerly a Market-town, and Part of the Possessions of Queen *Emma*, who passed the fiery Trial, as the *Ordeal* of the *Saxons* for Female Purity, which, like Gold, ac-

quires its Standard in the Furnace, may be well denominated.

We left *Windsor*, and struck again into the *London* Road at *Colebrook*, and passed over the Heath, and thro' the Towns of *Hounslow*, *Brentford*, *Hamersmith*, and *Kensington*, to *London*.

And here I shall conclude this Letter, with assuring you, that I am, Sir,

Your humble Servant.






LETTER II.

CONTAINING

*A Description of the City of LONDON,
as taking in the City of Westminster,
Borough of Southwark, and the Build-
ings circumjacent.*

S I R,

ONDON, as a City only, and as its Walls and Liberties line it out, might be viewed in a smaller Compass than what we propose to consider it in : for, when I speak of *London*, in the modern Acceptation, I take in all that vast Mass of Buildings reaching from *Blackwall* in the East, to *Tothill-fields* in the West ; and extended, in an unequal Breadth, from the Bridge or River in the South, to *Islington* North ; and from *Peterborough-house* on the *Bank-side* in *Westminster*, to *Cavendish-square* ; and all the new Buildings by and beyond *Grosvenor* and *Hanover* Squares to the *Brentford* Road one way, to the *Acton* Road another ; a Prodigy of Buildings, that nothing in the World does, or ever did, surpass, except old *Rome* in *Trajan's* time, when the Walls of that City were 50 Miles in Compass, and the Number of Inhabitants 6,800,000 Souls,

London

London, as to its Figure, must be owned to be very irregular, as it is stretch'd out in Buildings just at the Pleasure of every Undertaker of them, and as the Convenience of the People directs, whether for Trade, or otherwise: this gives it a very confused Appearance, being properly neither long nor broad, round nor square; whereas the City of *Rome* was, in a manner, round, with very few Irregularities in its Shape.

One sees *London*, including the Buildings on both Sides the Water, in some Places Three Miles broad, as from *St. George's* in *Southwark*, to *Shoreditch* in *Middlesex*; or Two Miles, as from *Peterborough-house* to *Montagu-house*; and in some Places not half a Mile, as in *Wapping*; and less in *Rotherhith*.

We see several Villages, formerly standing, as it were, in the Country, and at a great Distance, now joined to the Streets by continued Buildings; and more making haste to meet in like manner. For Example,

1. *Deptford*: This Town was formerly reckoned at least Two Miles from *Rotherhith*, and that over the Marshes too, a Place unlikely ever to be inhabited; and yet now, by the Increase of Buildings in that Town itself, and the many Streets erected at *Rotherhith*, and by the Docks and Building-yards on the River-side, which stand between both, the Town of *Deptford*, and the Streets of *Rotherhith*, are in a manner joined, and the Buildings daily increasing; so that *Deptford* may be reckoned a Part of the great Mass, and infinitely full of People also: and were the Town of *Deptford* now separated, and rated by itself, I believe it contains more People, and stands upon more Ground, than the City of *Wells*.

2. The Village of *Islington*, on the North-side of the City, is in like manner joined to the Streets of *London*, excepting one Field, which is, in itself, so small, that there is no doubt but in a very few Years they

they will be intirely joined. And the same may be said,

3. Of *Mile-end*, on the East End of the Town.

4. *Newington-butts*, in *Surry*, reaches out her Hand North, and is so joining to *Southwark*, that it cannot now be properly called a Town by itself, but a kind of Suburb to the Borough: and if, as once was talked of, *St. George's-fields* should be built into Squares and Streets, *Newington*, *Lambeth*, and the *Borough*, would make but one *Southwark*.

That *Westminster* is in a fair way to join Hands with *Chelsea*, as *St. Giles's* is with *Marybone*, and *Great Russell-street* by *Montagu-house*, with *Tottenham-court*, is very evident: and yet all these, put together, may still be called *London*. Whither will this City then extend, and where must a Circumvallation-line of it be placed?

I have, as near as I could, caused a Measure to be taken of this mighty Body; and, for the Satisfaction of your Curiosity, I have here given as accurate a Description of it as I can do in so narrow a Compass, or without drawing a Plan of the Places.

As I am forced, in many Parts, to take in some unbuilt Ground; so I have, on the other hand, been obliged to leave a great many whole Streets of Buildings out of my Line: so that I have really not stretch'd my Calculations, to make it seem bigger than it is; nor is there any Occasion for it.

A LINE of Measurement, drawn about all the continued Buildings of the City of London, and Parts adjacent, including Westminster and Southwark, &c.

N. B. I shall sum up by Figures, 1, 2, 3, &c. the Particulars at last,

The

The Line begins, for the MIDDLESEX Side of the BUILDINGS,

1. **A**T *Peterborough-house*, the farthest House West upon the River *Thames*, and runs North-west by West by the Marshes to *Tothill-fields*; and, passing by the *Neat-houses* and *Arnold's* Brewhouse, ends at *Chelsea Road*. Measured, 1 Mile, 6 Furlongs, 16 Rods.

2. Then, allowing an Interval from *Buckingham-house* cross the Park, about One Furlong and half to the Corner of my Lord *Godolphin's* Garden-wall, the Line goes North behind the Stable-yard Buildings, and behind *Park-place*, and on the Park-wall behind the Buildings, on the West-side of *St. James's-street*, to the Corner in *Soho*, or *Piccadilly*; then crossing the Road, goes along the North-side of the Road West, *Hyde-park Gate*. 1 Mile, 2 Furlongs, 11 Rods.

3. Then the Line turns North-east by East, and taking in the Buildings and Streets, called *May-fair*, holds on East, till the new Streets, formed out of *Hyde-house* Garden, cause it to turn away North, a Point West reaching to *Tyburn-road*, a little to the East of the great Mother Conduit; then it goes North, and, crossing the Road, takes in the West-side of *Cavendish-square*, and the Streets adjoining, and, leaving *Marybone*, goes away East, till it reaches to *Hamstead-road*, near a little Village called *Tottenham-court*. 2 Miles, 5 Furlongs, 20 Rods.

4. From *Tottenham-court* the Line comes in a little South, to meet the *Bloomsbury* Buildings; then turning East, runs behind *Montagu* and *Southampton* Houses to the North-east Corner of *Southampton-house*; then crossing the Path, meets the Buildings called *Queen's-square*; then turning North, till it comes to the North-west Corner of the Square; thence it goes away East, behind the Buildings on the North-side of *Ormond-street*,

till

till it comes to *Lamb's Conduit*. 1 Mile, 1 Furlong, 13 Rods.

5. Here the Line turns South, and indents to the Corner of *Bedford-row*; and leaving some few Houses, with the Cock-pit and Bowling-green, goes on the Back of *Gray's-inn Wall* to *Gray's-inn-lane*; then turns on the Outside of the Buildings, which are on the West-side of *Grey's-inn-lane*, going North to the Stones End, when turning East, it passes to the *New River Bridge* without *Liquor-pond-street*; so taking in the *Cold-bath* and the *Bear-garden*, but leaving out * *Sir John Oldcastle's* and the *Spaw*, goes on East by the *Ducking-pond* to the End of *New Bridewell*; and crossing the *Fair-field*, comes into the *Islington Road* by the Distiller's House, formerly Justice Fuller's. 1 Mile, 2 Furlongs, 6 Rods.

6. Here, to take in all the Buildings which join *Islington* to the Streets, the Line goes North on the East-side of the Road to the *Turk's-head Alehouse*; then turning North-west, passes to the *New River House*; but leaving it to the West, passes by *Sadler's-wells*, from thence to *Busby's-house*, and keeping on the West-side of *Islington*, till it comes opposite to *Canbury-house-lane*, turns into the Road, and passes South almost to the Lane which turns East down to the lower Street; but then turns East without the Houses, and goes to the *Cowkeeper's* in the lower Street crossing the Road, and thro' the *Cowkeeper's Yard* into *Frog-lane*; then turning West on the South Side of the Town, just without the Buildings, joins again to the Buildings on the West-side of *Wood's-close*, passing behind the *Sheep-market Wall*. 2 Miles, 4 Furlongs, 39 Rods.

7. From *Wood's-close* the Line goes due East to *Mount-mill*, where, leaving several Buildings to the

* A large Mass of Buildings has been erected since our Author drew this Line, consisting of many Streets and Passages, the whole *Cold-bath fields* being built upon, quite up to *Sir John Oldcastle's*. For which Reason the Line should now be drawn on the Outside of these Buildings.

North, it passes on, crossing all the Roads to *Brick-lane*, to the North-side of the great new Square in *Old-street*, and taking in the *Pesthouse* Wall, turns South at the North-east Corner of the said Wall to *Old-street* Road; then going away East till it meets the Buildings near *Hoxton-square*, it turns North to the North-west Corner of the Wall of *Ask's* Hospital; then sloping North-east, it passes by *Pimlico*, the *Cyder-house*, and the Two Walls to the North-end of *Hoxton*, when it turns East, and inclosing the Garden-walls, comes into the *Ware* Road just at the *King's-head* in the New Buildings by the *Land of Promise*. 2 Miles, 16 Rods.

8. From the *King's-head* the Line turns South, running to the Stones End in *Shoreditch*; then turning East, it takes in a Burying-ground, and some Buildings in the *Hackney* Road, when sloping South-east by South, it goes away by the *Virginia-house* to a great Brewhouse, and then still more East to the Back of *Wheeler-street*, and then East by South to *Brick-lane*; crossing which, it goes away East towards *Bethnal-green*; but then turning short South, it goes towards *White-chapel Mount*; but being intercepted by new Streets, it goes quite up to the South-end of *Dog-row* at *Mile end*. 1 Mile, 6 Furlongs, 19 Rods.

9. From the *Dog-row* the Line crosses the Road, and takes in an Hamlet of Houses, called *Stepney*; and coming back West to the Streets End at *White-chapel Mill*, goes away South by the *Hog-houses* into *Church-lane*, and to *Rag-fair*; when turning again East, it continues in a strait Line on the North-side of *Ratcliff Highway*, till it comes almost to the farther *Glass-houses*; then turning North, it surrounds all *Stepney* and *Stepney-caufway*, to *Mile-end* Road; then turning East again, and afterwards South, comes back to the new Streets on the North-Side of *Limehouse*, and, joining the Marsh, comes down to the Water-side at the Lower Shipwright Dock in *Limehouse-hole*. 3 Miles, 7 Furlongs, 1 Rod.

The

The Particulars of the *Middlesex* Side, put together, are as follow; viz.

	Miles.	Furl.	Rods
1 . .	1	6	16
2 . .	1	2	11
3 . .	2	5	20
4 . .	1	1	13
5 . .	1	2	6
6 . .	2	4	39
7 . .	2	0	16
8 . .	1	6	19
9 . .	3	7	1

Total 18 : 4 : 21

N. B. This Line leaves out all the North-side of *Mile-end*, from the End of the *Dog-row* to the *Jews* Burying-ground, which is all built; also all the North Part of the *Dog-row*, and all *Bethnall-green*; also all *Poplar* and *Blackwall*, which are contiguous, a Trifle of Ground excepted, and very populous. Therefore the above Places should now be all included within the Line, in order to give a just Idea of the Extent of *London* at present.

For the *Southwark* Side of the Buildings, the Line is as follows:

HAVING ended the Circumference of the *Middlesex* Buildings at *Lime-house*, and the Street extending towards *Poplar*, the Hamlets of *Poplar* and *Blackwall*, tho' very near contiguous in Buildings, being excluded, I allow an Interval of Two Miles, from *Poplar*, cross the *Isle of Dogs*, and over the *Thames*, to the Lower Water-gate at *Deptford*: and tho' in measuring the Circumference of all Cities, the River, where any such runs thro' Part of the Buildings, is always measured; yet, that I may not be said to stretch the Extent of the Buildings which I include in this Account, I omit the River from *Limehouse* to *Deptford* (where,

if

if included, it ought to commence), and begin my Line as above.

1. From the said Water-gate at *Deptford*, the Line goes East to the Corner next the *Thames*, where the Shipwrights Yard now is, and where I find a continued Range of Buildings begins by the Side of a little Creek or River, which runs into the *Thames* there, and reaches quite up the said River, to the Bridge in the great *Kentish* Road, and over the Street there, taking in the South-side of the Street to the West-corner of the Building in that Street, and then measuring down on the West-side of the long Street, which runs to the *Thames* Side, till you come to the new Street which passes from *Deptford* to *Rotherhith*; then turning to the Left, passing on the Back-side of the *King's-yard* to Mr. *Evelin's* House, including the new Church of *Deptford*, and all the new Streets or Buildings made on the Fields Side, which are very many, this amounts, in the Whole, to 3 Miles, 1 Furlong, 16 Rods.

2. From Mr. *Evelin's* Garden-gate the Line goes North-west, taking in all the new Docks and Yards, the *Red-house*, and several large Streets of Houses, which have been lately built, and by which the said Town of *Deptford* is effectually joined to the Buildings, reaching from *Cuckolds-point* Eastward, and which are carried out, as if *Rotherhith* stretched forth its Arm to embrace *Deptford*; then for some Length *Rotherhith* continues narrow till you come to *Church-street*, where several Streets are also lately built South, and others parallel with the Street, till gradually the Buildings thicken, and extend farther and farther to the South, and South by East, till they cross over the East-end of *Horslydown* to *Bermondsey* Church, and thence East to the Sign of the *World's-end*, over-against the great Fort, being the Remains of the Fortifications drawn round these Parts of *Southwark* in the

the Civil Wars. This Extent is, by Computation, Four Miles; but being measured as the Streets indented, the Circuit proved 5 Miles, 6 Furlongs, 12 Rods.

3. From this Fort to the Corner of *Long-lane*, and thro' *Long-lane* to the *Lock*, at the End of *Kent-street*, is 1 Mile, 7 Furlongs, 2 Rods.

4. From the Corner of *Kent-street* to the Town of *Newington-butts*, drawing the Line behind all the Buildings as they stand, and round the said Village of *Newington* to the *Haberdashers Alms-houses*, and thence by the Road to the Windmil at *Blackman-street*, is 3 Miles, 2 Furlongs, 16 Rods.

5. From the Windmil crossing *St. George's-fields*, on the Back of the *Mint*, to the *Fighting Cocks*, thence to the *Restoration Gardens*, and thence on the Outside of all the Buildings to *Lambeth-wells*, and on to *Vaux-hall Bridge*, over-against the other Fort of the old Fortifications, being just the same Length that those old Fortifications extended, tho' infinitely fuller of Buildings. This last Circuit measures 3 Miles, 5 Furlongs, 12 Rods.

		Miles. Furl. Rods.		
The Particulars of the <i>Southwark Side</i> *,	{	1 . . .	3 : 1 : 16	
		2 . . .	5 : 6 : 12	
		3 . . .	1 : 7 : 2	
		4 . . .	3 : 2 : 16	
		5 . . .	3 : 5 : 12	
			<hr/>	
			17 : 6 : 18	
<i>Middlesex</i> :		:	18 : 4 : 21	
			<hr/>	
Total . .			36 : 2 : 39	

* The Town of *Greenwich*, which may indeed be said to be contiguous to *Deptford*, might be also called a Part of the Measurement; but I omit it, as I have the Towns of *Chelsea* and *Knightsbridge* on the other Side, tho' the latter actually joins the Town; and the other, as also *Kensington*, very nearly.

Were it possible to reduce all these Buildings to a compact Situation, 'tis generally thought, that the whole Body so put together, allowing the necessary Ground, which they now employ for the several Trades in the Out-parts; such as the Buiding-yards by the River for Shipwrights, Tanners Yards, Dyers, Whitsters, &c. would take up 28 Miles in Circumference, very compactly built.

The Guesſes that are made at the Number of Inhabitants, have been variously formed: Mr. *Maitland* in his History of *London* (*Anno* 1739.) computes, that within the Walls, and the Bars, as I may say, it contains 725,903; but Sir *William Petty*, famous for his Political Arithmetic, supposed the City, at his last Calculation, to contain a Million of People; and this he judges from the Number of Births and Burials: but he must take in a greater Compass than Mr. *Maitland*, to make up this Number. And according to this Rule, as well by what is well known of the Increase of the said Births and Burials, as of the prodigious Increase of Buildings, it may be very reasonable to conclude the present Number of Inhabitants *within the Circumference I have mentioned in my Line*, to amount to about 1,500,000 Souls.

The Government of this great City is, perhaps, the best regulated that any City can pretend to; and of late Years it boasts of several new Regulations, as to Beggars, Lights, Pavements, &c. which turn out greatly to its Advantage.

The Government of the City, in particular, and abstractedly considered, is by the Lord Mayor, Twenty-five other Aldermen, Two Sheriffs, the Recorder, and Common Council; but the Jurisdiction of these is confined to that Part only which they call the City, and its Liberties, which are marked out, except the *Borough*, by the Walls and the Bars, as they are called.

Besides this, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of *London* have a Right Presidial in *Southwark*, and hold frequent

uent Courts at *St. Margaret's-hill* in the *Borough*: they are also Conservators of the Bridge, and the Bridge itself is their particular Jurisdiction.

The Lord Mayor, &c. are Conservators of the River *Thames*, from *Stanes Bridge* in *Surry* and *Middlesex*, to the River *Medway* in *Kent*, and, as some insist, up the *Medway* to *Rocheſter Bridge*.

The Government of the Out-parts is by Juſtices of the Peace, and by the Sheriffs of *London*, who are likewise Sheriffs of *Middleſex*; and the Government of *Veſtmiſter* is by an High Bailiff, conſtituted by the Dean and Chapter, to whom the Civil Adminiſtration is committed, and who preſides in Elections of Parliament for the City of *Veſtmiſter*, and returns the Candidates who are choſen.

The remaining Part of *Southwark Side*, where the City Jurisdiction does not obtain, is governed alſo by a Bench of Juſtices, and their proper ſubſtituted Peace-officers, excepting out of this the Privileges of the *Marſhalſeas*, or of the *Marſhal's Court*, the Privilege of the *Marſhal* of the *King's-Bench*, and the like.

That I may obſerve ſome Method in my Deſcription, and avoid Repetitions, I will divide my Subject into the following Branches:

- I. I will give a brief Account of what the City was before the Fire, and how improved when rebuilt, and within a few Years after it.
- II. Of the prodigious Increate of Buildings within our own Memory, down to the Year 1751.
- III. Of the public Offices, and City Corporations.
- IV. Of the moſt noted Edifices, Structures, and Squares, in and about *London*.
- V. Of the principal Hospitals, and other charitable Inſtitutions in and about *London*.
- VI. Of the Churches of *London* and *Veſtmiſter*, *Southwark*, &c.

- VII. Of *St. James's* Palace, the Parliament-house, *Westminster-hall*, &c.
- VIII. Of the Statues, and other public Ornaments.
- IX. Of the Gates of *London* and *Westminster*.
- X. Of the Markets of *London*, &c.
- XI. Of the public Schools and Libraries.
- XII. Of the Shipping in the *Thames*, and the Trade carried on by means of that noble River.
- XIII. Of the Manner by which the City is supplied with Water.
- XIV. Of the Christenings and Burials in *London*; the Importance of the City of *London* to the whole Kingdom; of its comparative Proportion to the public Expence; and the disproportionate Number of Members it returns.
- XV. The Benefit to the Public of a good Understanding between the Court and City.

To begin then with the first; viz.

I.

A brief Account of what the City was before the Fire, and how improved when rebuilt, and within a few Years after it.

TAKE the City, and its adjacent Buildings, to stand as described by Mr. *Stow*, or by any other Author, who wrote before the Fire of *London*; and the Difference between what it was then, and what it is now, may be observed thus:

Before the Fire of *London*, Anno 1666. the Buildings looked as if they had been formed to make one general Bonfire, whenever any wicked Incendiaries should think fit to attempt it; for the Streets were not only narrow, and the Houses all built with Timber, Lath and Plaster; but the Manner of the Building in those Days, one Story projecting out beyond another, was such

uch, that in some narrow Streets the Houses almost touched one another at the Top; insomuch that it often happened, that if an House was on Fire, the opposite House was in more Danger, according as the Wind stood, than the Houses adjoining on either Side.

And tho' by the new Buildings after the Fire, much Ground was given up to enlarge the Streets; yet it is to be observed, that the old Houses stood generally upon more Ground, were much larger upon the Flat, and in many Places, Gardens, and large Yards about them: so that there are many more Houses built than stood before on the same Ground. For Example:

Swithen's-alleys, by the *Royal Exchange*, were all, before the Fire, taken up with one single Merchant's House, Mr. *Swithen* by Name; whereas, upon the same Ground where the House stood, stand now about 22 or 24 Houses, which belong to his Posterity.

Copthall-court, in *Throgmorton-street*, was also, before the Fire, a single House, inhabited by a Dutch Merchant: likewise Three more Courts in the same streets were single Houses, Two on the same Side of the Way, and One on the other.

The several Alleys behind *St. Christopher's Church*, now vulgarly called *St. Christopher's Churchyard*, were likewise, before the Fire, one great House, with Warehouses, in which Mr. *Kenrick* lived, whom I have mentioned in my Account of *Reading* and *Newbury*, . 59. 65. and took up almost all the Ground on which now a Street of Houses is erected, called *Prince's-street*, going thro' into *Lothbury*.

King's-arms Yard in *Coleman-street*, now built into one large Houses, and inhabited by eminent Merchants, was, before the Fire, a Stable-yard for Horses, and an inn, which gave the Sign of the *King's-Arms*.

I might give many more Instances; but these will account for what some assert; viz. That so many great Houses were converted into Streets, Courts, Alleys, and Buildings, that near 4000 Houses stand on the Ground

which the Fire left desolate, more than stood on the same Ground before.

Another Increase of Buildings in the City is to be taken from the Inhabitants in the unburnt Parts following the same Example, of pulling down great old Buildings, which took up large Tracks of Ground in some of the well-inhabited Places, and building on the same Ground not only several Houses, but even whole Streets of Houses, which are since fully inhabited. For Example,

Crosby-square, within *Bishopsgate*, formerly the House of Sir *James Langham*, Merchant.

Devonshire-square, and *Street*, with several back Streets, and Passages into *Petticoat-lane* one Way, and *Houndsditch* another, all built on the Ground where the Earl of *Devonshire* had an House and Garden.

Bridgwater-square, and several Streets adjoining, built on the Ground where the Earl of *Bridgwater* had a large House and Garden, in *Barbican*.

Billeter-square, and several Passages adjoining, built upon the Grounds of one great House, in which one Merchant only lived.

All those Palaces of the Nobility, formerly making a most beautiful Range of Buildings fronting the *Strand*, with their Gardens reaching to the *Thames*, where they had their particular Water-gates and Stairs, have had the same Fate: such as *Effex*, *Arundel*, *Norfolk*, *Salisbury*, *Worcester*, *Exeter*, *Hungerford*, and *York* Houses; the Lord *Brook's*, Lord *Hatton*, and Lord *Baldwin's* Houses in *Holborn*, in the Place of which are now so many noble Streets and Houses erected, as are in themselves equal to a large City: all which extend from the *Temple* to *Northumberland-house*; *Somerset-house*, and the *Savoy*, only intervening: and the latter of these may be said to be, not an House, but a little Town; being separated into innumerable Tenements and Apartments.

These are prodigious Enlargements to the City,
even

ven upon that which I call inhabited Ground, and where infinite Numbers of People now live, more than lived upon the same Spot of Ground before.

Such was the State of *London* before the Fire in 1666. And so prodigious were the Improvements made in it, within the Course of a few Years after that Disaster. But what are these, compared to what has been done since, within our own Memory? And this brings me to my second Article.

II.

Of the prodigious Increase of Buildings, within our own Memory, down to the Year 1751.

NOT to enter on a particular Description of the Buildings, I shall only take notice of the Places where such Enlargements are made: As,

1. All those numberless Ranges of Building, call'd *Spital-fields*, reaching from *Spital-yard* at *Northern Fallgate*, and from *Artillery-lane* in *Bishopsgate-street*, with all the new Streets, beginning at *Hoxton*, and the Back of *Shoreditch Church*, North, and reaching to *Brick-lane*, and to the End of *Hare-street*, on the Way to *Bethnal-green*, East; then sloping away quite to *White-chapel Road* South-east, containing, as some People say, above 320 Acres of Ground, which are now close built, and inhabited by an infinite Number of People.

The Lanes were deep, dirty, and unfrequented; that Part now called *Spitalfields-market* was a Field of Grass, with Cows feeding on it, since the Year 1670. The *Old Artillery-ground* (where the Parliament lifted their first Soldiers against the King) took up all those long Streets leading out of *Artillery-lane* to *Spital-yard Backgate*; and so on to the End of *Wheeler-street*, *Brick-lane*, which is now a long well-paved Street, was a deep dirty Road, frequented chiefly by Carts fetching Bricks that

Way into *Whitechapel* from Brick-kilns on those Fields, whence it had its Name.

2. On the more Eastern Part the same Increase goes on in proportion; namely, all *Goodman's-fields*, and the many Streets between *Whitechapel* and *Rosemary-lane*, all built since the Year 1678. *Well-cloſe*, now called *Marine-square*, all the hither or West-end of *Ratcliff-highway*, from the Corner of *Gravel-lane* to the East-end of *East-Smithfield*, was a Road over the Fields; likewise, those Buildings now called *Virginia-street*, and all the Streets on the Side of *Ratcliff-highway* to *Gravel-lane* above-named, which of late Years extends so far, that the End of *Limehouse* stands a Chance to be soon joined to the Beginning of *Poplar*.

3. To come to the North-side of the Town, and beginning at *Shoreditch* West, and *Hoxton-square*, and *Charles-square* adjoining, those were all open Fields, from *Agnes St. Clare* to *Hoxton* Town, till the Year 1689. or thereabout. *Pitfield-street* was a Bank, parting Two Pasture-grounds; and *Ask's* Hospital was another open Field. Farther West, the like Addition of Buildings begins at the Foot-way by the *Pest-house*, and includes the *French* Hospital, *Old-street* Two Squares, and several Streets, extending from *Brick-lane* to *Mount-mill*, and the Road to *Islington*, and from that Road, still West, to *Wood's-cloſe*, and to *St. John's* and *Clerkenwell*; all which Streets and Squares are built since the Years 1688. and 1689 and were before that, and some for a long time after, open Fields or Gardens, and never built on till after that time; and moreover, within these few Years, all those open Grounds, called *Bunhill-fields*, adjoining to the *Dissenters* Burying-ground (nicknamed from the famous Mr. *Baxter*, who was the first there buried, *Saints Rest*, alluding to the Title of a Book he had published), are now built upon, and are complete Streets of Houses to the very Road, and generally well inhabited.

From hence we go on still West, and beginning at
Gray's.

Gray's-inn, and going on to those formerly called *Red-lion Fields*, and *Lamb's-conduit Fields*, we see there prodigious Piles of Buildings: they begin at *Gray's-Inn-wall* towards *Red-lion-street*, from whence, in a straight Line, they go quite to *Lamb's conduit Fields* North, including a great Range of Buildings reaching to *Bedford-row* and the *Cockpit East*, and including *Red-lion-square*, *Ormond-street*, *Great* and *Little Marlborough-streets*, *Queen's-square*, and all the Streets between the Square and *King's-gate* in *Holborn*. These Piles are very great, and the Houses so magnificent and large, that abundance of Persons of Quality are found among them.

Farther West, in the same Line, is *Southampton* great Square, called *Bloomsbury*, with *King-street* on the East-side of it, and all the numberless Streets West of the Square to the Market-place, and through *Great Russel-street*, by *Montagu house*, quite into the *Hamstead Road*; all which Buildings, except *Southampton house*, and some of the Square, have been formed from the open Fields since the Time above mentioned, and contain several Thousands of Houses.

The Increase of the Buildings in *St. Giles's* and *St. Martin's in the Fields*, is really a kind of Prodigy; comprising all the Buildings North of *Long-acre*, up to the *Seven Dials*; all the Streets from *Leicester-fields* and *St. Martin's-lane*, both North and West of the *Hay-market* and *Soho*, and from the *Hay-market* to *St. James's-street* inclusive, and to the Park-wall; then all the Buildings on the North-side of the Street called *Piccadilly*, and the Road to *Knights-bridge*, and between that and the South-side of *Tyburn Road*, including *Soho-square*, *Golden-square*, *Hanover-square*, the Two *Bond-streets*, *George's-street*, and that new City stretching out to *Tyburn Road*, called *Grosvenor-square*, and *Cavendish-square*, and all the Streets about them; some Part of which will be briefly mentioned under the Head of *Squares*.

This last Addition is, by Calculation, more in Bulk

than the Cities of *Bristol*, *Exeter*, and *York*, if they were all put together; all which Places were, a few Years ago, mere Fields of Grass, and employed only to feed Cattle.

In *Spring-gardens*, near *Charing-cross*, are lately erected several very handsome new Buildings, and a neat Chapel.

The new Buildings in the End of *Broad-street*, near *Bishopsgate*, formerly called *Petty-France*, deserve to be mentioned here. It is in every one's Memory, what a poor and decayed Place *Petty-France* was; but now the Spot where it stood is called *New Broad-street*, and the Buildings are the most stately and elegant in the City. They are increased quite into *Old Bethlehem*, which consisted of mean and ruinous Houses: and there may be said to be a new and stately Town of Buildings erected here.

It would be endless to enumerate the other new Buildings that have taken place in and about this great City, of old and ruinous Houses and Streets. See the *Articles of Churches, Squares, &c.*

III.

Of the Public Offices, and City-Corporations.

THE EXCISE-OFFICE is kept in the *Old Jewry*, in a very large House, formerly the Dwelling of *Sir John Frederick*, and afterwards of *Sir John Hern*, very considerable Merchants. In this One Office is managed an immense Weight of Business, and they have in Pay several Thousands of Officers. The whole Kingdom is divided by them into proper Districts, and to every District a Collector, a Supervisor, and a certain Number of Gaugers, called, by the Vulgar, *Excise-men*.

Under the Management of this Office are now brought not only the Excise upon Beer, Ale, and other

ther Liquors, as formerly; but also, the Duties on Malt and Candles; Hops, Soap, and Leather; Coffee, Tea, and Chocolate; Starch, Powder, Spirituous Liquors. Likewise the new Duties upon Coaches, Chaises, and Glass, &c. all which are managed in several Classes.

The POST-OFFICE is kept in *Lombard-street*, in a large House, formerly Sir *Robert Viner's*; and is under an admirable Management.

The *Peny-post* is a Branch of it, and a most useful Addition to Trade and Business: for by it Letters are delivered at the remotest Corners of the Town, almost as-foon as they could be sent by a Messenger, and that from Four, Five, Six, to Eight times a Day, according as the Distance of the Place makes it practicable: insomuch that you may send a Letter from *Limehouse* in the East, to the farthest Part of *Westminster*, for a Peny, several times in the same Day; and to the neighbouring Villages, as *Kensington*, *Hamersmith*, *Chiswick*, &c. Westward; *Newington*, *Islington*, *Kentish-town*, *Hamstead*, *Holloway*, *Highgate*, &c. Northward; to *Newington-butts*, *Camberwell*, &c. Southward; and *Stepney*, *Poplar*, *Bow*, *Stratford*, *Deptford*, *Greenwich*, &c. Eastward, once a Day.

Nor are you tied up to a single Piece of Paper, as in the *General Post-office*; but any Packet under a Pound-weight, goes at the same Price.

The CUSTOM-HOUSE comes next to be mentioned. The *Long Room* is like an *Exchange* every Morning, and the Croud of People who appear there, and the Business they do, is not to be explained by Words. The whole Building is very convenient, but not like what it might or ought to have been; and moreover, the Quays thereabouts are so throng'd and crouded, that they are much too little for the Business continually carrying on there.

Between the Horse-guards at *Whitehall* and *Charing-cross*, is the ADMIRALTY-OFFICE. This Office is,

perhaps, of the most Importance of any of the public Parts of the Administration; the Royal Navy being the Sinews of our Strength.

The NAVY-OFFICE, a neat and convenient Building in *Crutched-friers*, and the VICTUALLING-OFFICE on *Tower-hill*, near *East-Smithfield*, both which, had we room, deserve a particular Description, are but Branches of this Administration, and receive their Orders from hence; as do likewise the Docks and Yards theirs from the *Navy-office*; the Whole being carried on with the most exquisite Order and Dispatch. The *Admiralty* has been in Commission ever since the Death of Prince *George of Denmark*.

Tho' his MAJESTY resides all the Winter at *St. James's*, yet the Business of the Government is chiefly carried on at the *Cockpit, Whitehall*; near which is lately finished a magnificent Building, with a very grand Front looking to the Parade in *St. James's-park*, for the TREASURY-OFFICE; and, it being a spacious Structure, over that where formerly was kept the OFFICE of the Secretary of State for *Scotland*, now abolished, is the PLANTATION-OFFICE.

The Horse-guards was a Building commodious enough, as a Barrack for a large Detachment of the Horse-guards, who used to keep Post there: and over it were Offices belonging to the Judge-advocate for holding Courts Martial for Fryal of Deserters and others, according to the Articles of War. But this Building, and these Offices, are now pulled down; and new ones are erecting, which will be very large and commodious.

A new Office and House is lately erected, adjoining to the Horse-guards, for the Paymaster-general of the Army.

The BANK used to be kept in *Grocers-hall*; but is now removed to an intire new Edifice, built for that thriving Corporation in *Threadneedle-street*, adjoining to *St. Christopher's Church*.

The

The EAST-INDIA HOUSE, situated where formerly was that of Sir *William Craven*, was rebuilt in the Year 1726. It is very convenient within, but, without, makes not the Appearance that is worthy of the Company's Trade and Figure in the World; its Front being not extended enough. In the Back-part towards *Lime-street*, they have also Warehouses, which were rebuilt in a very handsome manner, *Anno* 1725.

The AFRICAN COMPANY'S HOUSE is in the same Street.

The SOUTH-SEA HOUSE is a new Structure, situated on a large Spot of Ground between *Bread-street* and *Threadneedle-street*.

The YORK-BUILDINGS COMPANY have their Office in *Winebester-street*.

Here are also several great Offices for Societies of INSURERS, where almost all Hazards may be insured. The Four principal are called, 1. *The Royal Exchange Insurance*, kept in a Part of the *Royal Exchange*. 2. *The Royal Insurance*, kept in *Cornhill*. 3. *The Hand-in-hand Fire-office*, kept on *Snow-hill*. 4. *The Sun Fire-office*, in *Threadneedle-street*.

In the Two first, all Hazards by Sea of Ships and Goods, not Lives, are insured; as also, Houses and Goods are insured from Fire.

In the last Two, only Houses and Goods.

In all which Offices the *Premium* is so small, and the Recovery, in case of Loss, so easy and certain, that nothing can be shewn like it in the World.

There are also Offices of INSURANCE ON LIVES, the *Union Fire-office* in *Gutter-lane*, the *Westminster Fire-office*, and others, which manage a great deal of Business in the same way.

The Offices of ORDNANCE, and the MINT for coining Money, are kept in the *Tower of London*.

IV.

Of the most noted Edifices, Squares, and Public Structures, in and about London.

THAT beautiful Column, called the *Monument*, erected at the Charge of the City, to perpetuate the Memory of the fatal Burning of the Whole, cannot be mentioned but with some due Respect to the Building itself, as well as to the City. It is 202 Feet high, and exceeds all the Obelisks, and Pillars of the Antients: there is a Stair-case in the Middle, to ascend to the Balcony, which is about 30 Feet short of the Top, and whence there are other Steps made, even to look out at the Top of all, which is fashioned like an Urn, with a Flame issuing from it.

The Lord Mayors of this famous Metropolis have been hitherto forced to content themselves with residing in some one or other of the stately Halls of the City Companies, hired for that Purpose; an Inconvenience which was equally unworthy of the Grandeur of the great Officer, and of the City over which he presided, and which now is in a way to be remedied by an House, vulgarly called the *Mansion-house*, built in the Place where *Stocks-market* used to be kept. But it is not yet furnished, and applied to its intended Use.

The *Royal Exchange* is the greatest Bourse in the World: 'tis said, that it cost above 80,000 *l.* in building; and yet the Interest of the Money was a great while answered by the Rent made of the Shops and Vaults: but as now the Trade that used to be carried on there, is dispersed in other Places, it cannot be supposed to do so.

The *College of Physicians* in *Warwick-lane* is a beautiful and magnificent Structure, of Brick and Stone; but built in a Place where all its Beauties are, in a manner, buried.

The *Surgeons Theatre*, in *Monkwell-street*, is a fine Piece of Architecture, admirably disposed for Seeing
and

and Hearing: it was the Work of the famous *Inigo Jones*.

In the Court of Assistants Room is a capital Picture of *Hans Holbein*, in which is the Portrait of King *Henry VIII.* sitting in his Chair, delivering the Charter which he granted to the Surgeons.

This Theatre, on the late Separation of the Surgeons Company from the Barbers by Act of Parliament, with the Picture, and other Valuables, remains to the Barbers: and the Surgeons have actually erected an Hall and Theatre in the *Old Bailey*, near *Ludgate*, for themselves.

Several Acts of Parliament have passed, for building a new Bridge over the *Thames* at *Westminster*. It was at first resolved to be built at the *Horse-ferry* over to *Lambeth*; but the Design was altered, and it is now built at the *Woolstaple*, near *Palace-yard*, and carried to *Stangate* on the opposite Side. The Extent of this Bridge is 1220 Feet, the Abutments whereof, at each End, are 113 Feet each; the Middle Arch is 76 Feet Diameter, and its Two Piers are each 17 Feet thick: every other Arch, on each Side, lessens 4 Feet, and the Piers 1 Foot each. There are 13 Arches, in all: so that the clear Space for the Water is 820 Feet. The Solids of the 12 Piers contain 400 Feet besides the Two Abutments; the Breadth for Carriages is 30 Feet; and for Foot-passengers, 7 Feet, on each Side.

Great Powers are given, by this Act, to Commissioners to agree with Persons who own Houses and Lands, on either Shore: and they have pulled down whole Streets about *Palace-yard*, and *Channing-row*, as well as on the *Surry* Side, for the more commodious Passage to it; and have built so many fine ones in their Places, that that Part of *Westminster* may be said to be new-built.

The first Pile of this Bridge was driven in 1738. and the Whole was finished, and ready to be opened for Use, in Autumn 1747. when it was discovered, that the 5th Pier from *Westminster* Side was sinking; and soon

after Stones fell out of the Arch next to it. It was necessary therefore to take off the Arches that rested on the Pier; which was done with great Care, by replacing Centres under them, like those on which they were turned. The sinking Pier was then loaded with 12,000 Ton of Cannon and Leaden Weights, in order to sink and settle it. This, and the Deliberations how to repair the Defect, took up above a Year: But in the Summer of 1749. Materials being ready, it was intirely finished for Use, and opened Nov. 17. 1750. at Midnight, having been retarded 3 Years. The Pier that had failed, was freed from its Burden by a secret Arch, now not to be seen.

This Structure is certainly a very great Ornament to our Metropolis; and may justly attract the Admiration even of those who have seen the *Rialto* at *Venice*, or the magnificent Bridges over the *Rhone* in *France*; much more of those who have never viewed an Object of the like Nature, comparable to it, in *England*.

The surprising Echo in the Arches brings much Company with *French* Horns to entertain themselves under it in Summer: And the Path for Foot-passengers, being raised a little above the Level of the Road for Carriages, &c. is by that means furnished with the Advantage of an agreeable Airing, with which none of the public Walks or Gardens can stand in Competition.

If we consider its Length, its Breadth, the Regularity of the Design, the Beauty of the Workmanship, the Manner in which it was constructed, the Breadth and Depth of the River it extends over, the Quantity of Water that passes thro' it without sensible Obstruction, the great inland Navigation, which it does not impede, the Spaciousness and Commodiousness of the Carriage and Foot-ways over it, the easy Ascent it affords, the Avenues that lead to it, the Provision made for the Defence of Passengers against the Weather in their Way over it, the Watch of Twelve Men every Night for
the

the Security of their Persons, and the beautiful globular Lamps, 16 on each Side, suspended on Irons that project inwards, with a lofty Sweep, from the Top of each Recess, and on the Sides of the Abutments, softening the Horrors of the Night, and diffusing a star-like Radiance, not only over the circumfluent Waters, but over the circumjacent Lands, and princely Palaces; all these Circumstances may well seem to give this Bridge a Superiority over most other Bridges mentioned in History.

The *Mews* near *Charing-Cross*, where the Kings Horses are kept, and the Coaches of State set up, is a very large kind of Square; but the Buildings being old, and unworthy of the Situation, as well as of the Use, are, as 'tis said, to be pulled down. The principal Range at the upper End is already finished; and when the other Parts are completed, it will be one of the finest Things, of its kind, in *Europ*.

Carlton-house, belonging to his Royal Highness the Prince, *Marlborough-house*, and *Buckingham-house*, all Three in *St. James's-park*; the late Duke of *Montagu's*, and the Duke of *Richmond's*, in the *Privy-garden*; *Devonshire-house*, and the Earl of *Bath's*, in *Piccadilly*; the Earl of *Chesterfield's* overlooking *Hyde-park*; *Northumberland-house* in the *Strand*, *Montagu-house*, however deserted at present, a most noble one, and the Duke of *Bedford's*; those of Lord *Bateman*, and numberless others of the Nobility and first Gentry; together with the noble and extensive Streets of Buildings about *Soho*, *Grosvenor*, *Cavendish*, *Berkley*, and *Hanover-squares*, with those stately Squares themselves; *St. James's-square*, *Red-lion-square*, *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, especially as it is lately altered and adorned; the new Buildings about *Fockey-fields*, *Bedford-row*, *Queen's-square*, and innumerable other Improvements; would take up too much of my Room to particularize: and I can therefore only name them.

But yet I cannot forbear particularly to mention one Beauty, because it is an Honour to our Country; and that

that is the great Piazza in *Covent-garden*, the noblest Square in *Europe*, for Grandeur of the Design, especially with the Beauty of the East Front of that elegant Church, the only Piece the Moderns have yet produced, that can admit of a just Comparison with the Works of Antiquity; where a majestic Simplicity commands the Approbation of the Judicious. The rustic Arcade round the Square is of an excellent Composition, above which is a grand Story, and an Attic, and the Windows dressed with a regular Entablature.

V.

Of the principal Hospitals, and other Charitable Institutions, in and about the City of London.

N O City in the World can shew the like Number of private and public Charities, as the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*.

I have not Room particularly to describe them, and must therefore content myself with giving little more than their Names, and those of their munificent Founders; referring to those larger Works where more ample Accounts and Descriptions may be expected.

1. Then, I will mention *Bethlehem Hospital* in *Moorfields*, for the Reception of Lunatics, erected at the Charge of the City, *Anno* 1676.

2. *Bridewell* is as well an House of Correction as an Hospital: it was formerly the King's City Palace, but given to the City by King *Edward VI.* for the reclaiming of idle Persons, Vagrants, &c. and for bringing up Lads to handicraft Businesſes.

There are Two other Houses of Correction, called *Bridewells*, one at *Clerkenwell*, for *Middlesex*; the other in *Tothill-fields*, for *Westminster*.

3. *Christ's-Hospital*, originally founded by King *Edward VI.* (at the Request of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of *London*, and of the pious Martyr *Dr. Ridley*, then Bishop of *London*) for entertaining, educating,

ating, nourishing, and bringing up the poor Children of the Citizens; such as, their Parents (or Fathers, at least) being dead, have no other way of Support.

This noble Charity maintains near 1000 poor Children, who have Food, Cloathing, and Instruction, useful and sufficient Learning, and an exceeding good Discipline observed; and at the proper Ages they are put out to Trades suitable to their several Genius's and Capacities; and others are taught Mathematics, Navigation, and Arithmetic, to fit them for private and public Service. The seeing of these Children at Church on a *Sunday* at *Christ-Church*, and at Supper on *Sunday* Evening, was reckoned as fine a Sight as any in *London*, and occasioned a constant Resort of People of all Ranks; who used to admire the Neatness of their Appearance, and the good Management of the House. Dependent on this noble Charity is also an House at *Hertford*, where Diet, Schooling, &c. are given to the younger Boys.

4. *St. Bartholomew's* Hospital adjoins to *Christ's* Hospital: its first Foundation may be said to be owing to King *Henry VIII.* whose Statue in Stone, very well done, is, for that Reason, erected in the new Front, over the Entrance in *West-Smithfield*, with Two Cripples, no mean Pieces of Sculpture, on the Top of the Pediment over his Head. This Hospital has received very great Additions of late Years, and they are going on building still; and 'tis well if they do not overdo it; for they demolish their Houses, and reduce their Estates, by it; and leave it upon the Generosity of future Benefactors to support what they are about.

This Hospital relieves about 600 Patients daily, with Lodging, Diet, Physic, and Surgery.

The *Lock* at *Kingsland*, and that in *Southwark*, belong to *St. Bartholomew's* Hospital, and are used for such as have the foul Disease only.

There generally are under the Care of this Hospital upwards

upwards of 5000 poor sick and lame Persons, destitute of other Relief.

5. *St. Thomas's Hospital* in *Southwark* is also a noble Piece of Charity, of the like Nature with that of *St. Bartholomew*: the Church, and most of the Hospital, were rebuilt in a beautiful manner, from the Year 1701. to 1706. It was founded by *Edward VI.* and Inscriptions are set up in it to the Honour of Mr. *Guy*, Mr. *Frederick*, Sir *Robert Clayton*, the last of whom has his Statue there; as has King *Edward VI.* erected by *Charles Joy*, Esq; late Treasurer of this Hospital.

6. *Guy's Hospital* is situated very near *St. Thomas's Hospital*, and is, perhaps, one of the greatest private Charities that was ever known. Its Founder, *Thomas Guy*, was a Bookseller in *Lombard-street*; he lived to see this Work in great Forwardness, and at his Death, *Anno 1724.* left about 200,000 *l.* to finish and endow it. Mr. *Guy* actually divested himself of 80,000 *l.* in his Life-time towards this Hospital, which was established many Years before his Death, tho' since, by his Bequest, so greatly enlarged. His Statue is erected in the principal Square.

Tho' this Hospital is said to be for Incurables, it is not for such as are absolutely so; for the Founder used to say, That he would not have his Hospital made an Alms-house.

Over and above the 200,000 *l.* left to this Hospital, the Founder left as many Legacies, and other Dispositions, as were computed to amount to near 150,000 *l.* more.

7. The *London Workhouse*, as it is called, founded on an Act of Parliament passed in the 13th Year of King *Charles II.* is situated without *Bishopsgate*, and is an Edifice consisting of several Work-rooms and Lodging-rooms, for Vagrants and Parish-children.

They have an handsome Chapel built at the upper End of the Yard belonging to the House, where they

to Prayers twice a Day, at Seven in the Morning, and Seven in the Evening. On *Sundays* they all go to *St. Helen's*, where they have Seats.

The Charity-Schools and Workhouses set up in almost every Parish of this prodigious City, have in some measure pursued the Design of this laudable Workhouse; and if they have thereby interfered with it, and taken off some Benefactions that otherwise might have flowed into that Canal, it will be the less to be wondered at.

8. The Hospital called the *Charter-House*, or *Sutton's Hospital*, must be recorded to be the greatest and noblest Gift that ever was given for Charity, by any one Man, public or private, in this Nation, since History gives us any Account of Things; except we give a Preference to that of Mr. *Guy*; the Revenue of Mr. *Sutton's Hospital* being, besides the Purchase of the Place, and the Building of the House, and other Expences, little less than 6000 *l. per Ann.*

The Royal Hospitals of *Greenwich* and *Chelsea* are taken Notice of in their proper Places.

The *Greycoat* and *Greencoat Hospital* in *Tothillfields*; *Emanuel Hospital*, *Westminster*; that for the Poor of the *French Refugees*, near *Islington*; the *Ironmongers Alms-houses*, near *Shoreditch*; Alderman *Ask's* at *Hoxton*; those stately ones of the *Trinity-house*, the *Vintners*, and several others, in the Way to *Mile-End*; as also those handsome ones, lately erected by the Will of Mr. *Francis Bancroft*, a Lord Mayor's Officer, in the same Road; all deserve particular Mention, had I Room for it.

But I must say a Word or two of those useful Charities, the Two Infirmaries, one in *James's-street*, *Westminster*, and the other at *Hyde park Corner*, which have given Birth to the like laudable Institutions in other Parts of the Kingdom. The Design of them is, to supply the Places of the Hospitals of *St. Bartholomew*

mew and *St. Thomas's* afore-mentioned, there being no such charitable Foundations in the City of *Westminster*. And here the best Order is observed, the best Medicines dispensed, and the best Assurances given, as well by Physicians, as Surgeons and Apothecaries, to all who are admitted into these Charities. I shall refer you to the Accounts published by each every Year, for further Particulars of their Institutions, Progress, and Success.

In *August* 1732. a Corporation was erected for the Relief of poor Officers Widows belonging to the Navy; which allots 45 *l. per Ann.* to a Captain's Widow; 30 *l.* to a Lieutenant's; and 20 *l.* to the Widows of Boatswains, Gunners, Carpenters, Purfers, Surgeons, Second Master of a Yacht, or Master of a Naval Vessel, warranted by the Navy-board; provided the annual Incomes of their real and personal Estates do not amount to the aforesaid yearly Sums. To this Charity all Admirals, Captains, Lieutenants, and Warrant-officers, pay 3 *d. per Pound* out of their Salaries; and his Majesty King *George II.* graciously contributed 10,000 *l.* as a Foundation for it.

In the Year 1739. a most useful and long-wish'd-for Charity was established by Royal Charter, in order to found an Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children, otherwise called Foundlings.

An Act of Parliament has passed for confirming and enlarging the Powers granted by this Charter; and a neat and convenient Hospital is actually built for this good Purpose, on the North Side of *Ormond-street*. The Rules by which it is governed are extremely well adapted to the Intention of the Charity, and as well observed. Four principal Painters, *viz.* Mr. *Highmore*, Mr. *Hogarth*, Mr. *Hayman*, and Mr. *Willes*, have each presented a Piece of Scripture-Painting on Subjects suitable to the Design; which are put up, and are very well worth the Attention of the Curious.

An Infirmary for poor People labouring under that
terrible

terrible Malady the Small-Pox, is also lately opened in Tottenham-Court Road.

There are also just set on Foot, and in a prosperous Way, an Hospital for Lying-in Women, and a new one for the Reception of unhappy People who are out of their Minds, of the same Nature with that of *Bethlem*.

The Corporation for Clergymens Sons deserves also to be taken Notice of, as an excellent Institution; but must draw to a Conclusion of this Article.

I shall only further observe, in general, That those noble Foundations, added to innumerable Alms-houses, which are to be seen in almost every Part of *London*, make it certain, that there is no City in the World can shew the like Number of Charities from private Hands, there being no less than Twenty thousand People maintained of Charity, besides the Charities of Schooling for Children, and besides the Collections at the annual Feasts of several Kinds, where Money is given for putting out Children Apprentices, &c. a great Number of which owe their Rise to the Period of Time included in 40 Years past; so that the *Papists* have no Reason to boast, that there were greater Benefactions, and Acts of Charity, to the Poor, given in their Days, than in our Protestant Times. And this is, indeed, one of the principal Reasons for my making Mention of it in this Place; for let any particular Age be singled out, and let the Charities of this Age, for about 40 Years past, and the Sums of Money bestowed by Protestants in this Nation, on mere Acts of Charity to the Poor, not reckoning Gifts to the Church, be cast up, it will appear they are greater, by far, than can be found in *England* in any the like Number of Years, take the Time when we will.

Nor do I include in this, the Money collected by Briefs all over *England*, upon Casualties by Fire, though that is as eminent an Act of Charity as any can be; nor the Money given either in public or private, for re-

rebuilding *St. Paul's* and other Churches, demolished by the Fire of *London*, or the Augmentation of poor Benefices by the Bounty of *Queen Anne*, and many other such Gifts. But there is still a Charity to be mentioned, which is newly set on Foot, that may be of more public good Consequence to this Kingdom, as a Maritime Power, than any yet established; which I shall now take Notice of.

Ample Provision having been made for Seamen worn out in the Royal Service, in the noble Hospital at *Greenwich*, and something of the like Nature being much wanted for the Relief of that serviceable Body of Men who have spent their Labour, and lost their Limbs and Lives, in that of the Merchants, as well as of their helpless Widows and Orphans, an Act was passed in the Session of Parliament *Anno 1747*. intituled, *An Act for the Relief and Support of maimed and disabled Seamen, and the Widows and Children of such as shall be killed, slain, or drowned, in the Merchants Service*; whereby a Corporation is established, of several considerable Merchants, by the Name of *The President and Governors for the Relief and Support of sick, maimed, and disabled Seamen, and of the Widows and Children of such as shall be killed, slain, or drowned, in the Merchants Service*, to purchase Lands for the Site of an Hospital, and to relieve all proper Objects of the Charity of their Countrymen, on producing Certificates of their Merits and Sufferings. Every Person contributing 50 *l.* is, *ipso facto*, a Governor: And for effecting the good Ends and Purposes intended, all Seamen serving on board the Merchant-Ships of any of his Majesty's Subjects in *England*, are to pay 6 *d.* per Month, in order to be intitled to the Benefits of this Act. The Merchant-Venturers of the City of *Bristol*, and the Guild or Brotherhood of Masters, Seamen of the *Trinity-house* of the Town and Port of *Kingston upon Hull*, are included within the Purposes of this Act, with respect to the poor Mariners belonging to each of those Places.

places. Those in the Service of the *East-India-Company*, only, are excluded any Benefit from hence, being already sufficiently provided for by their respective Masters.

VI.

Of the Churches of London, Westminster, and Southwark.

THERE are within the Walls of *London*, 97 Parishes; without the Walls, 17; the Out-Parishes in *Middlesex* and *Surry*, within the Bills of Mortality, 12; and in the City and Liberty of *Westminster*, 10; in all, 146. We shall, as briefly as possible, touch upon the most remarkable Churches.

We must observe, in the first Place, That the Churches in *London* are rather convenient than fine, not adorned with Pomp and Pageantry, as in *Popish* Countries; but, like the true Protestant Plainness, have very little Ornament either within or without.

But the most famous of all the Churches in the City, and of all the Protestant Churches in the World, is the Cathedral of *St. Paul*; an Edifice exceedingly beautiful and magnificent, with the fewest Faults of any Building of the like Nature and Extent; though its Dress is at this time a little out of Fashion. Some, who would be thought to have Skill in Architecture, are pleased to censure it for its Heaviness; but that Objection, upon due Consideration, will appear ill-founded.

The vast Extent of the horizontal Arch of the Cupola, which supports a Stone Lantern near 70 Feet high, may well account for the Strength of the Eight Piers which support the Whole of that prodigious Weight. And tho' common Observers assert, that those, as well as the Piers of all the Arches withinside, are too thick and heavy, yet, whoever knows any thing of the Rules of Architecture, must allow them to be
as

as slender as the Strictness of those Rules would admit of; for the Thickness of each Pier is not One Third Part of the Void of each Arch. And those which support the Dome, when compar'd with those that support the Cupola of *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, come out to be but One Third Part of the Bigness of the latter, the one measuring 240 Feet in Circumference, the other not quite 80; yet the Difference in the Dimensions and Weight of the Two Cupolas is nothing in proportion to that of the Piers; and, upon the Whole, *St. Paul's* is much less liable to the Objection of being heavy, than *St. Peter's*.

Indeed *Gothic* Architecture, which is more familiar to some Persons than the other, admits of an extravagant Airiness and Lightness. In that Sort of Building the Designer is bound down to no Rules of Proportion but what his own Fancy suggests; whereas, in the other, Dimensions so universally followed, cannot be deviated from. The Height of every Arch hath a fix'd Proportion to its Breadth; the Doors, Windows, and their Ornaments, have the same; the Intercolumniations, and their Intablatures, are all confined to certain Admeasurements. But where is that Exactness observed in any *Gothic* Structure? It must be allowed, there are some of those Buildings, that, in the Whole, look very august and venerable. Yet, let any one view the vast Buttresses round the Outside of *Westminster-Abbey*, and see what a Croud of Lines and Breaks they occasion in the Perspective, and they will then easily account for the Lightness of the Inside of that Church; for those Buttresses, by extending so far out, support the whole Structure, more than its Walls or Pillars. This is mentioned for the Sake of common Observers only; for to the Judicious it is altogether unnecessary.

Sir *Christopher Wren* had the Satisfaction to find his Work approved by the best Masters in *Europe*, who allowed, That the Church of *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, which

is the most stupendous Structure in the World, only exceeds *St. Paul's* with respect to its huge Dimensions, its rich mosaic Work, the beautiful Marble, of which both its Outside and Inside intirely consist, the latter in different Colours, its Statues, Paintings, Gildings, Altars, and Oratories.

Had the Inside of *St. Paul's* been adorned in the like profuse and pompous Manner, it would have attracted the Admiration of superficial Critics; so that they would never have been able to discover the Faults which they can only attribute to the Plainness of its Materials. But Harmony, Proportion, and Beauty, are the same, whether the Building is executed in Stone, or the most beautiful Marble; whether the Carvings or Mouldings be gilt or not; the Recesses or Panels in the Walls be curiously painted, or plain.

In the Year 1707. the House of Commons had it under Consideration, whether the Cupola should be covered with * Copper or Lead; and upon Inquiry into which was most expedient, and least expensive, it appeared that the Covering of Lead would amount to about 170 Tons, and the Expence thereof, including Workmanship, was estimated at 2500 *l*.

The Copper Covering was computed at Eleven Tons, Three hundred Three Quarters and odd Pounds; and the Expence was estimated at 3050 *l*. Upon which the House fixed upon a Copper Covering.

But when the Bill, which had a Clause in it for that Purpose, went up to the Lords, their Lordships left out the Clause; upon which the Commons desired Conference, alleging, that Copper was preferable to any other Covering, as well in respect of Duration as Brightness; for that Lead being subject to frequent Repairs, the necessary Scaffolding for that Purpose, at any one time, would exceed the Difference of Charge between that and Copper: Besides, that frequent Scaf-

* This is an authentic Account of the Matter.

folding would very much prejudice the Building. But the Sessions closing the same Day, put an End to the Affair, and there were no Conferences ; tho' the preceding Reasons were what the Commons intended to offer, if there had been one.

It very probably was upon this Occasion, that Sir *Christopher* is said to have declared his Opinion, when some Gentlemen doubted whether the Cupola would bear the Leaden Covering, that it was able to bear 7000 Tons more than what is now upon it ; and that he would undertake to raise a Spire of Stone upon the Whole, 100 Feet higher than the Cross now stands.

The Expence of this magnificent Structure, as it was laid before the Parliament *Anno* 1711. including the Building of the Chapter-house near it, purchasing of Property, together with the Estimate of what was necessary to complete the Whole, in which was included a Ring of twelve Bells, not yet put up, nor cast, as also the Furniture for the Choir, amounted to 810,380 *l.* 4 *s.*

These Things, that were not so easy for every one to know, we have thought it necessary to enlarge upon. Our Bounds will not permit us to say all that the Subject requires, and we would not dwell upon Points which every one knows, or may easily inform himself of by his own Observation, or from other Writers, in relation to this famous Structure.

But one Thing it will be requisite to observe further, which every one does not know, and which therefore I shall mention.

This able Architect, Sir *Christopher Wren*, at the first setting about the Church, would have had its Situation removed a little to the North, to stand just on the Spot of Ground which is taken up by *Pater-noster Row*, and the Buildings on either Side ; so that the North-side of the Church should have stood open to *Newgate-street*, and the South-side to the Ground on which the Church now stands.

By this Situation, the East-end of the Church would have looked directly down the main Street of the City, *Cheapside*; and for the West-end, *Ludgate* having been removed a little North, the main Street called *Ludgate-street*, and *Ludgate-hill*, would only have sloped a little W. S. W. as they do now irregularly Two Ways, one within, and the other without the Gate; and all the Street beyond *Fleet-bridge* would have received no Alteration at all.

By this Situation, the common Thorough-fare of the City would have been removed at a little farther Distance from the Work, and we should not then have been obliged to walk just under the very Wall, as we do now, which makes the Work appear out of all Perspective, and is the chief Reason of the Objections I have mentioned, as to the outside Appearance; whereas, had it been viewed at a little Distance, the Building would have been seen infinitely to more Advantage.

Had Sir *Christopher* been allowed this Situation, he would then, also, have had more room for the Ornament of the West-end, which, tho' a most beautiful Work, would then have been much more so; and he would have added a circular Piazza to it, after the Model of that of *Rome*, but much more magnificent; and an Obelisk of Marble in the Centre of the Circle, exceeding any thing that the World can shew of its Kind, of modern Work.

But the Circumstance of Things hindered this noble Design; and the City being almost rebuilt before he obtained an Order and Provision for laying the Foundation, he was prescribed to the narrow Spot where it now stands, in which the Building, however magnificent in itself, stands with great Disadvantage as to the Prospect of it. The Inconveniences of this were so apparent when the Church was finish'd, that Leave was at length, tho' not without Difficulty, obtain'd, to pull down one whole Row of Houses on the North-side of the Body of the Church, to make way for the

noble Balustrade of cast Iron, raised upon an handsome Stone Wall of above a Yard high, that surrounds the Church-yard; and, indeed, to admit Light into the Church, as well as to preserve it from the Danger of Fire.

That admirable Architect met with no better Success in a Plan which was one of the most beautiful that could enter the Mind of Man, and would have made this City the noblest on Earth: this I shall relate in the Words of a curious Author; *viz.*

“ The Fire of *London* furnished the most perfect
 “ Occasion that can ever happen in any City, to re-
 “ build it with Pomp and Regularity. This Sir *Chri-*
 “ *stopher Wren* foresaw, and, 'tis said, offered a
 “ Scheme which would have made it the Wonder of
 “ the World. He proposed to have laid out one large
 “ Street from *Aldgate* to *Temple-Bar*; in the middle
 “ of which was to have been a large Square, capable
 “ of containing the new Church of *St. Paul's*, with
 “ a proper Distance for the View all round; whereby
 “ that huge Building would not have been cooped up,
 “ as it is at present, in such a manner, as no-where
 “ to be seen to Advantage at all; but would have had
 “ a long and ample Vista at each End, to have re-
 “ concil'd it to a proper Point of View, and give it
 “ one great Benefit, which, in all Probability, it must
 “ now want for ever. He farther proposed to rebuild
 “ all the Parish-churches in such a manner, as to be
 “ seen at the End of every Vista of Houses, and di-
 “ persed in such Distances from each other, as to ap-
 “ pear neither too thick nor thin in Prospect, and
 “ give a proper Heightening to the whole Bulk of
 “ the City, as it filled the *Landschape*. Lastly, he
 “ proposed to build all the Houses uniform, and sup-
 “ ported on a Piazza, like that of *Covent-garden*:
 “ and by the Water-side, from the Bridge to the
 “ *Temple*, he had planned a long and broad Wharf, or
 “ Quay, where he designed to have ranged all the
 “ Halls that belong to the several Companies of the
 “ City,

City, with proper Warehouses for Merchants between, to vary the Edifices, and make it at once one of the most beautiful and most useful Ranges of Structure in the World. But the Hurry of Re-building, and the Disputes of Property, prevented this glorious Scheme from taking Place."

When this great Man found he could not carry this point, he proposed what we have already mentioned; but, as we have observ'd, with as little Success as the above grand Scheme; private Property, on this Occasion, as it does on most others, getting the better both of public Utility and public Spirit.

Of the other Churches, the most remarkable are *St. Vincent-garden*; the Churches of *St. Mary le Bow*, and *St. Bride's*; the two latter for having the finest steeples in the World; especially *Bow*. The Inside of the Church of *St. Stephen Walbrook* is admired all over *Europe*. The Contrivance and Beauty of other Churches, considering how they were obliged, unavoidably, to be thrust up in Corners, and odd Angles, is amazingly fine.

The new Churches at *Lime-house*, *Ratcliffe-high-way*, *Spital-fields*, *Old-street*, the *Strand*, *Ormond-street*, *Hanover-square*, the *Horse-ferry*, *St. Mary Woolnoth*, *Bishopsgate*, *St. Leonard Shoreditch*, *St. Catharine Coleman*, *St. Martin in the Fields*, *St. Giles*, and that in *Bloomsbury*, I can only mention. But the latter, I must observe, was the first Building, wherein was introduced a Portico after the Manner of the antient Temples. The Body of the Church is a masterly Performance; but the placing, for a Weather-cock, the statue of a Prince famous for good Sense and Steadiness, is an Absurdity peculiar to the Church of *Bloomsbury*!

That incomparable Piece, called *The Banqueting-house* at *Whitehall*, is now made use of as a Chapel. This was the Design of *Inigo Jones*, as one Pavilion for that admirable Model he gave for a Palace. And if this Specimen has justly commanded the Admiration

of Mankind, what must the finish'd Piece have done! It is to be hoped *Britain* will one Day have the Glory to accomplish it, according to this Plan, and then it will far exceed all the Palaces of the Universe. Here is Strength and Politeness, Ornament with Simplicity, and Beauty with Majesty. It is without Dispute one of the noblest Structures in the World. The Cieling is an admirable fine Piece of Painting by *Rubens*.

The Abbey, or Collegiate Church of *Westminster*, is a venerable old Pile of Building; but now appears with a new Face; for two Towers are actually finished at the West-end. The Beginning of a fine and costly Spire was also laid some time ago, near the Middle of the Edifice; but it is not yet proceeded on. The West Window, between these Towers, is one of the most beautiful in Glass-Painting, that has been done of late Years; and the Window also fronting *Kingstreet*, finished in the Deanry of the late Bishop *Atterbury*, is one of the finest modern Performances of its kind.

The Houses adjoining to the North-side of this venerable Pile, are all pulled down; and the Building is railed in with Iron Rails, from the Projection of the North Cross. And it is hoped that some other Houses, which join to King *Henry VII.*'s Chapel, and may, in case of accidental Fire, endanger the Whole, will, with all convenient Speed, be likewise demolished. We may say, that every Individual of the Community has an Interest in a public Building; and it were pity that such noble Edifices, through private Avarice or Convenience, should lie at the Mercy of a careless, or perhaps a sottish Servant. Some of the Money given by Parliament, in several Sessions, to adorn and repair the Whole, would have been well laid out to purchase such Houses, as, demolished, would tend to preserve the Whole.

This Building, however, tho' very expensive, is far less elegant than several other *Gothic* Structures. Its Outside can never be made beautiful; and within,

It is extravagantly out of Proportion, with regard to the Height and Breadth of the middle Nef and Side-Isles. The high Altar within is a noble Piece, and had a wonderful fine Effect from the West Door, before the Organ, lately erected, intercepted its View.

The Towers at the West-end, which I have just mentioned, as they stand so close together, are not sufficiently contracted in the carrying them up. The Four Pinacles look wretchedly bad, when viewed in a diagonal Line. The Style of the Building, so far as is intire new Work, is a sort of Medley, neither Gothic, nor any thing else; and is excessive heavy. As so many beautiful Structures of this kind are to be seen, it is amazing, that any Architect should be above imitating them, when, it is plain, he cannot equal, much less excel them.

This Abbey is the Repository of the deceas'd *British* Kings and Nobility, and very fine Monuments are seen over the Graves of our antient Sovereigns: the Particulars are too long to enter into here.

The Monarchs of *Great Britain* are likewise always crowned here.

The Churches in *Southwark* are as follow:

1. The Church of *St. Mary*, vulgarly called *St. Mary Overy*, and *St. Saviour* in *Southwark*. It is a venerable Gothic Pile; having three Isles running from East to West, and a Cross-Isle after the manner of a Cathedral.

2. The Church of *St. George Southwark* is new-built, with a very mean Steeple.

3. *St. Thomas's* is a neat and convenient Building.

4. *St. Olave's* is also new-built.

5. *St. John's*, vulgarly called *Horsley-down Church*, is one of the Fifty new ones.

6. The Church of *St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey* is a neat Structure.

7. *Christ-Church* is new-built; as is also,

8. *Rotherhith-Church*.

VII.

Of St. James's Palace, the Parliament-House,
Westminster-Hall, &c.

THE Palace of *St. James's*, tho' the Winter Receptacle of all the Pomp and Glory of this Kingdom, is really mean, in Comparison of the glorious Court of *Great Britain*. The Splendor of the Nobility, the Wealth and Greatness of the Attendants, the Oeconomy of the House, and the real Grandeur of the whole Royal Family, outdo all the Courts of *Europe*; and yet this Palace comes beneath those of the most petty Princes in it; altho' there cannot be in the World a nobler Situation for a Royal Palace than *Whitehall*. And it is with some Concern, that we see so fine a Spot become a Sacrifice to private Spirit, so much of it being given away to particular Families, as makes more remote, than we might otherwise expect it to be, the Hope we might justly have entertained, of seeing a Palace built there, worthy of the Glory of our Monarchs.

Many Plans have been drawn for the Rebuilding of this Palace; but the most celebrated Draughts are those of *Inigo Jones*, and may be seen in *Mr. Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus*, and *Mr. Kent's Edition of Jones's Works*. The last of these, if executed, would, for Magnificence and Beauty, transcend even the Temple of *Solomon*, if we are to form a Judgment from the Plans given of that famous Edifice. But 'tis a question whether the Expence would not exceed that of *St. Peter's at Rome*, which cost Forty Millions of *Roman Crowns*.

As the Court is now stated, all the Offices and Places for Business are scatter'd about, here and there.

The Parliament meets, as they used to do while the Court was at *Westminster*, in the King's old Palace; nor can it be said but the Place is made tolerably

erably convenient for them. The House of Commons meet in the Chapel of the Palace at *Westminster*, dedicated to St. *Stephen*, and fitted for this Purpose by that admirable Architect Sir *Christopher Wren*.

The House of Lords is a venerable old Place, tho' it must be said to be much streightened in the several Avenues to it, and Rooms above it; and particularly the matted Gallery, the Lobby, the back Ways the King goes to it, are very short of the requisite Dignity or Convenience of the Place, and of the Glory of a King of *Great Britain*, who there meets the Peers and Commons of his Realm, who, together, constitute the most august Assembly in the World.

Westminster-hall, a very noble Gothic Building, in which are held the Courts of Justice, is said to be the largest Room in the World, being 220 Feet long, and 70 Feet broad. Its Roof is the finest of its Kind that can be seen. Here is held the Coronation-Feast of the Kings and Queens of *England*; also the Courts of Chancery, King's-Bench, and Common-Pleas; and, above Stairs, that of the Exchequer. But it must be confess'd, that it makes no very advantageous Appearance without, resembling, at a Distance, a great Barn, of 300 Feet long.

Adjoining to the Hall are kept the numerous Offices belonging to the Exchequer of *England*, some of them very dark and inconvenient, and such as to a Stranger would afford no very remote Idea (particularly in some of the Avenues from Office to Office) of the dismal Mansions to which Money-Transactions are thought often to bring the devoted Subjects of *Plutus*.

VIII.

Of the Statues, and other public Ornaments, in and about the Cities of London and Westminster.

THIS Article we insert rather for the sake of the Number of the Statues, &c. than their Excellency; tho' some of them must be allowed to be very valuable.

The Brass Statue of King *James II.* in the Habit of a *Roman Cæsar*, in the *Privy-Garden* at *Whitehall*, is a very beautiful one, and can hardly be outdone by any modern Performance of that kind in *Europe*.

A fine Brass Bust of King *Charles I.* done by *Panini*, a famous *Italian* Master of Sculpture, is placed over the Passage at the upper End of *Westminster-hall*, adjoining to the Court of King's-Bench, which, tho' little observed, is very curious.

The Statue in Brass of King *Charles I.* on Horseback, at *Charing-Cross*, is a curious Piece, tho' not perfect, according to the Notion of some Critics.

At *St. Paul's*, the Figures of the *Apostles* and *Evangelists*, on the West, North, and South Fronts; and in the Middle of the Area, the Statue of her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, at full Length, crowned, with a Sceptre in one Hand, and a Globe in the other, round the Pedestal of which, are the Figures of *Britannia*, *France* in a pensive Attitude, *Ireland*, and *America*: also *St. Paul*, with a Group of other Figures expressing his Conversion, finely done in Alto-Relievo, over the Door in the West Front.

On the Front of the Hall of the *College of Physicians*, toward the Court, is a Statue of King *Charles II.* well cut in Stone. On the West-side of the Theatre is also the Statue of Sir *John Cutler*, carved in Stone. A fine Bust of Dr. *Harvey*, who first discovered the Circulation

ation of the Blood, is also erected in the Front of the Hall, at the Expence of Dr. *Richard Mead*.

In the Front of *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, next *Smithfield*, which is a very handsome Gate-way, is a Statue of King *Henry VIII.* done in a very good Taste.

In *Aldersgate*, King *James I.* on Horseback, well carved in *Alto-Relievo*: also the Prophets *Samuel* and *Jeremiah*.

In the *Royal Exchange*, the Statues of *Edward I.* *Edward III.* *Henry V.* *Henry VI.* *Edward IV.* *Edward V.* *Henry VII.* *Henry VIII.* *Edward VI.* *Q. Mary I.* *Q. Elizabeth.* *K. James I.* *K. Charles I.* *K. Charles II.* *K. James II.* *K. William III.* and *Q. Mary II.* *Q. Anne,* *K. George I.* and King *George II.* Also on the South-side are Two fine Statues of *K. Charles I.* and King *Charles II.* A Statue of King *Charles II.* in a *Roman Habit*, in the Centre of the Area, is a very noble Performance. Also a Statue of *Sir Thomas Gresham*; and now, very lately, another erected near it, in Honour of *Sir John Barnard*, one of the worthiest and ablest Representatives that ever the City of *London* sent to Parliament. But if they were the finest in the World (as they certainly are not), the Place where they are fixed, would conceal their Beauty, and they might as well be placed in a Cellar.

The Two Figures over the Gate to *Bethlehem Hospital*, one representing a Person melancholy mad, the other one raving, are inimitable Performances, by Mr. *Gibber*, Father of the Laureat.

In *St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark*, a Statue of *Sir Robert Clayton*, in Marble; another in Brass of King *Edward VI.*

In Mr. *Guy's Hospital*, a Statue in Brass of that Gentleman.

A good Statue of King *Charles II.* in Brass, in a *Roman Habit*, is in the Quadrangle before *Chelsea College*.

In *Leicester-square* is a Statue of his present, and in *Grosvenor-square* another of his late Majesty, the latter of which, formerly gilt, is now painted White.

In the public Office of the Bank is a curious Marble Statue of King *William III.* their Royal Founder, with an Inscription to his Honour.

The noble Collections made by several of our *English* Nobility and Gentry, from abroad, would afford a curious Article in this Place; but our Design is to give an Account of Things, as they are, in and about this great City.

IX.

Of the Gates of London and Westminster.

THE Gates of the City of *London* are Seven, besides Posterns.

Ludgate is a Prison for Debt, for Freemen of the City only.

Newgate is a Prison for Criminals, both in *London* and *Middlesex*, and for Debtors also for *Middlesex*, being the County Gaol.

Moorgate is a very beautiful Gateway, the Arch being near Twenty Feet high, which was done to give room for the City Train'd Bands to go through to the *Artillery-Ground*, where they muster, and that they might march with their Pikes advanced; for then they had Pikemen in every Regiment, as well in the Army as in the Militia, which, since that, is quite left off.

Cripplegate is very old, and makes but a mean Figure.

Bishopsgate is newly rebuilt, but not with the least Elegance,

Aldersgate and *Aldgate* both make a very handsome Appearance.

Most of these Gates are given by the City to the chief

chief Officers to live in, and are convenient Dwellings.

Temple-bar is the only Gate which is erected at the Extent of the City-Liberties; and this was occasioned by some needful Ceremonies, as at the Proclaiming any King or Queen of *England*, at which time the Gates are shut. The Herald at Arms, knocks hard at the Door; the Sheriffs of the City call back, asking, Who is there? Then the Herald answers, *I come to proclaim*, &c. according to the Name of the Prince who is to succeed to the Crown, and repeating the Titles of *Great Britain, France, and Ireland*, &c. at which the Sheriffs open, and bid them welcome; and so they go on to the *Exchange*, where they make the last Proclamation.

There was formerly another Gate belong to the City of *London*, called the *Postern-Gate*, at *Tower-Hill*; but, being partly demolished by Time, it is now turned into private Buildings.

Westminster had no less than Five Gates, and all within a small Compass of Ground; as, First, The noble Gothic Gate at *Whitehall*, which is left standing for the Beauty of its Workmanship. Secondly, a Gate a little farther, where *King-street* begins, which was a good old Structure, and pulled down a few Years ago to enlarge the Passage. Thirdly, a Gate where now *Union street* is, communicating *King-street* with the *New Palace-yard*. This has been several Years demolished, and the said little Street built where it stood. Fourthly, a Gate leading from *New Palace-yard* to *St. Margaret's-lane*; which has been lately demolished, to enlarge that Passage, by which the King goes to the House of Lords. Fifthly, the *Gate-house*, near the West-end of the Abbey; which is an old Building, used for the public Gaol of the City of *Westminster*.

To these we may also add, the *Water-gate* at *Westminster*, in *New Palace-yard*, near which the new Bridge is erected.

X.

Of the Markets of London.

AMONG these, that of *Smithfield* for Cattle is, without question, the greatest in the World: no Calculation of the Numbers of Horses, Oxen, Cows, Calves, Sheep, &c. can be made. This Market is held every *Monday* and *Friday*.

There is also a great Market, or rather Fair, for Horses, in *Smithfield*, every *Friday* in the Afternoon, where very great Numbers of Horses, and those of the highest Price, are sold weekly.

The Flesh-markets are *Leaden-hall*, *Honey-lane*, *Newgate*, *Clare*, *Shadwell*, *Southwark*, *Westminster*, *Spital-fields*, *Whitechapel*, *Brook*, *Bloomsbury*, *Newport*, *St. James's*, *Carnaby*, *Hungerford*; and now lately the new Market at *Fleet-ditch*, as also another, for which a Patent was granted, *May* 1740. to be held on *Monday*, *Wednesday*, and *Friday*, weekly, at *Brook-field* by *May-fair*, in the Parish of *St. George Hanover-square*, for Meat, Herbage, &c.

A Flesh-market is also erected, and another for Fish, in *Westminster*. The latter is at present held at the upper End of *Channing-Row*, in the New Street, called *Bridge-street*; the former is building in *Thieving-lane*, as it was vulgarly called; the Street where stood formerly a Tavern called *The Quaker's Tavern*; noted for its fine Vaults; and for being Part of the old Sanctuary, belonging to the Church of *Westminster*.

At all these Markets, a Part is set by for a *Fish-market*, and a Part for an *Herb-market*; notwithstanding which, there are the following particular Fish and Herb-markets; viz.

Fish-markets at *Billingsgate*, *Fishstreet-hill*, and *Old Fish-street*.

Herb-markets, *Covent-garden*, and, till within a little while,

While, *Stocks-market*, which is removed to the new one at *Fleet-ditch*, to make room for the Mansion-house for the Lord Mayor.

Stocks-market, when it was in being, was the most considerable, for all sorts of esculent Herbs, in the World. It may not be amiss to take notice here of a common received Opinion; viz. that the Inhabitants of most of the other Nations in *Europe* live more on Herbs than the *English*, which is certainly a great Mistake; for, if any Judgment can be formed from the Quantities sold in the public Markets, the *English* consume much more than any other Country; for, by comparing the Quantity sold in one Day in any of the Markets abroad, with what has been sold in *Stocks-market* only, it has been found, upon near Inspection for a Month, in the best Time of the Year, that more Garden-stuff has been sold in each Day, than in seven of the greatest Markets in *Europe*; and yet there are the following Markets in *London* and the Suburbs, where great Quantities are sold by Wholesale; viz. *Newgate-market*, *Whitechapel*, *Covent-garden*, *Hungerford*, and the *Borough* in *Southwark*. The constant Market-days in these Markets are Three times every Week the whole Year; but, in the Summer-season, the Gardeners make six Market-days in a Week, whereby the Inhabitants have a fresh Supply every Day, a Conveniency which none of the Markets abroad have.

At the *Three Cranes*, are also Markets for Cherries, Apples, and other Fruits.

Corn-markets are in *Mark-lane* and *Queen-hith*.

Meal-markets, at *Queenhith*, *Hungerford*, *Ditchside*, and *Whitecross-street*.

Hay-markets, at *Whitechapel*, *Smithfield*, *Southwark*, the *Haymarket-street*, *Westminster*, and *Bloomsbury*.

A new Market is obtained lately near *Grosvenor-square*.

Leather-market, at *Leaden-hall*.

Hides

Hides and Skins, at *Leaden-hall*, and *Wood's-clofe*.

Coal-markets, at *Rome-land*, and *Billingsgate*.

Bay-market, at *Leaden-hall*.

Broad-cloth-market, at *Blackwell-hall*.

The last Three are, without Doubt, the greatest in the World of those Kinds.—There are moreover Multitudes of Coal-merchants, who have Coal-wharfs, from the *Hermitage* one Way, to the *Horse-ferry* and *Westminster* another, which may be deemed so many Markets, though not public ones.

These Markets are so considerable in themselves, that they merit a larger and more particular Description, than I have room for. I shall, however, briefly observe of them, That of the Fifteen Flesh-markets for Provisions, Seven are of antient Standing; but the others are erected since the Increase of the City. The old ones are, *Leaden-hall*, *White-chapel*, *Newgate-market*, *Southwark*, *Clare*, *St. James's* and *Westminster*, to which some add *Honey-lane*; and these are so considerable, have such Numbers of Buyers, and such an infinite Quantity of Provisions of all Sorts, Flesh, Fish, and Fowl, that, especially with regard to *Leaden-hall*, no City in the World can equal them.

The great Market called *Leaden-hall* (of which a certain *Spanish* Embassador said, There was as much Meat sold in it in one Month, as would suffice all *Spain* for a Year) contains Three large Squares, every Square having several Outlets into divers Streets, and all into one another. The first, and chief, is called the *Beef market*, which has Two large Gates, one into *Leaden-hall-street*, one into *Grace-church-street*; and Two smaller, viz. one by a long paved Passage, leading into *Lime-street*, and one under a Gateway from the second Square. In this Square, every *Wednesday*, is kept a Market for raw Hides, tanned Leather, and Shoemakers Tools; and in the Warehouses, up Stairs, on the East and South-sides of the Square, is the great Market for *Colchester* Bays.

The

The second Square is divided into Two Oblongs: in the first is the Fish-market, and in the other a Market for Country Higglers, who bring small Things, as Pork, Butter, Eggs, Pigs, Rabbits, Fowls, &c.

In the North Part of the Fish-market, the Place being too large for the Fishmongers Use, are the Stalls of the Town Butchers for Mutton and Veal, the best and largest of which, that *England* can produce, are to be bought there; and the East Part is a Flesh-market for Country Butchers.

The third and last Square, which is also very large, is divided into Three Parts: round the Circumference, is the Butter-market, with all the Sorts of Higglerly Goods, as before; the South Part is the Poultry-market, and the Bacon-market; and the Centre is an Herb-market. And there have been, lately, still more Conveniences and Additions made to this prodigious Market, which we have not room to particularize.

All the other Markets follow the same Method in proportion to the Room they have for it.

There are Two Corn-markets; *viz.* *Mark-lane* and *Queenbith*. In the former the many Departments are conveniently set off in a new Taste; and hither comes all the vast Quantity of Corn that is brought into the City by Sea, from the Counties which lie commodious for that Carriage; and here Corn may be said not to be sold by Horse-loads, or Cart-loads, but by Ship-loads; and except the Corn-chambers and Magazines in *Holland*, when the Fleets come in from *Dantzick* and *England*, the whole World cannot equal the Quantity bought and sold here; for no Quantity can be wanted either for Home Consumption, or for Foreign Exportation, but the Corn-factors, who are the Managers of this Market, are ready to supply it.

Queenbith is chiefly for Malt; the Barley of which takes up the Ground of so many Hundred thousand Acres of Land in the Counties of *Surry*, *Bucks*, *Berks*,
Oxford,

Oxford, Southampton, and Wilts, and is called *West Country Malt*.

It is true, there is a very great Quantity of Malt, and of other Corn too, brought to some other Places on the River, and sold there; viz. to *Milford-lane*, above the Bridge, and the *Hermitage*, below the Bridge; but this is, in general, a Branch of the Trade of the other Places.

It must not be omitted, that *Queenbith* is also a very great Market for Meal, as well as Malt, and, perhaps, the greatest in *England*.

The Vessels which bring this Malt and Meal to *Queenbith*, are worthy Observation. They are remarkable for the Length of the Vessels, and the Burden they carry, and yet the little Water they draw; for some of those Barges carry above a Thousand Quarters of Malt at a time, and yet do not draw Two Feet of Water; and a Thousand Quarters of Malt must be granted to be, at least, an Hundred Tons Burden; and some of these large Barges come as far as from *Abington*, which is about One hundred and Fifty Miles from *London*, if we measure by the River.

The next Market, which is more than ordinary remarkable, is the Coal-market at *Billingsgate*. This is kept every Morning on the broad Place just at the Head of *Billingsgate-dock*, and the Place is called *Romeland*: from what old forgotten Original it has that Name, History is silent. I need not, except for the sake of Strangers, take Notice, that the City of *London*, and Parts adjacent, as also all the South of *England*, is supplied with Coals, called therefore *Sea-coal*, from *Newcastle upon Tyne*, and from the Coast of *Durham*, and *Northumberland*. This Trade is so considerable, that it is esteemed the great Nursery of our Seamen. I shall have occasion to say more of it in my Account of the Northern Parts of *England*. The Quantity of Coals, which, one Year with another, are burnt and consumed in and about this City, is supposed

posed to be about 500,000 Chalders, every Chalders containing 36 Bushels, and generally weighing 3000 Weight.

Most of these Coals are bought and sold on this little spot of *Rome-land*; and though sometimes, especially in case of a War, or of contrary Winds, a Fleet from 500 to 700 Sail of Ships, comes up the River at a time, yet they never want a Market. The Brokers of these Coals are called *Crimps*; the Vessels they load their ships with at *Newcastle, Keels*; and the Ships that bring them, *Cats*, and *Hags*, or *Hag-boats, Fly-boats*, and the like.

The Increase of this Consumption of Coals is another Evidence of the great Increase of the City of *London*; for, within a few Years past, the Import of Coals was not, in the River of *Thames*, so great by very near half.

It must be observed, that as the City of *London* occasions the Consumption of so great a Quantity of Corn and Coals, so the Measurement of them is under the Inspection of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen; and for the Direction of it, there is allowed a certain Number of Corn-meters, and Coal-meters, whose Places are for Life, and bring them in a very considerable Income.

They have abundance of poor Men employed under them, who are also called Meters, and are, or ought to be, Freemen of the City.

This is, indeed, a kind of Tax, as well upon the Coals as Corn; but the Buyer is abundantly recompensed, by being ascertained in his Measure; for the sworn Meters are so placed between the Buyer and the Seller, and have so many Eyes upon them (being besides Men of Character), that there is hardly ever any room for Complaint on this Head.

Acts have very lately passed in relation to the Admeasurement or Metage of Coals, for the City of *Westminster*.

XI.

Of the Public Schools and Libraries.

WE must be very brief in this Article; nor have we room to say any thing of the private Schools, which are hardly to be numbered.

Near the Abbey at *Westminster* is the *Royal Free-school*, founded by Queen *Elizabeth*: it is not outdone even by those of *Winchester* and *Eton*, for the excellent Scholars it has produced, and is in a very flourishing Condition.

St. Paul's School, founded by Dr. *Colet*, Dean of *St. Paul's*, is a fair Foundation for 153 Boys, to be taught *gratis*.

Merchant-Taylor's School was founded by Sir *Thomas White*, Founder of *St. John's* College, *Oxon*, for 100 Scholars to be taught *gratis*, 100 more for Half a Crown, and another 100 for Five Shillings a Quarter; and has 46 Fellowships established in *St. John's* College, for Scholars elected from this School.

Another excellent School was founded at *Mercers-chapel*, by that Company.

To say nothing of the noble Foundation of the *Charter-house*, mentioned before, p. 113. and of upwards of 70 Charity-schools, upheld by the benevolent Contributions of charitable Persons; also the Mathematical, and other Schools, at *Christ's Hospital*, which I have not room to be more particular in.

As to the LIBRARIES, I can only mention them likewise in a cursory manner. Those at *Sion-college*, the *Temple*, and other Inns of Court, *Castle-yard*. near the *Mews*, the *King's*, &c. deserve more particular Mention than we can give them. In *Redcross-street*, near *Cripplegate*, an handsome Building was erected, Ann. 1727. by the late Dr. *Daniel Williams*, a Dissenting Teacher, for a public Library for the Use of the Dissenting Ministers of *London*.

The

The valuable Collection, called the *Cotton Library*, is so well known, that we shall only mention the great Disaster that befel it in the Year 1730. when a Fire happened, which burnt and defaced a great Number of valuable Manuscripts. But most happily it was discovered and extinguished, before it made so great a Destruction as was at first apprehended.

XII.

Of the Shipping in the Thames, and the Trade carry'd on by means of that noble River.

THE whole River, from *London-bridge* to *Black-wall*, is one great Arsenal: nothing in the World can be like it. The great Building-yards at *Schedam* near *Amsterdam* are said to outdo them in the Number of Ships which are built there; and they tell us, that there are more Ships generally seen at *Amsterdam*, than in the *Thames*.

I will not say, but that there may be more Vessels built at *Schedam*, and the Parts adjacent, than in the River *Thames*; but then it must be observed,

1. That the *English* build for themselves principally, the *Dutch* for all the World.

2. That almost all the Ships the *Dutch* have, are built there, whereas not One Fifth Part of our Shipping is built in the *Thames*.

3. That we see more Vessels in less Room at *Amsterdam*; but, setting aside their Hoys, Bilanders, and Schouts, which are in great Numbers always there, being Vessels peculiar to their Inland and Coasting Navigation, you do not see more, nor near so many Ships of Force at *Amsterdam*, as at *London*.

That Part of the River *Thames*, which is properly the Harbour, and where the Ships usually deliver, or unload their Cargoes, is called the *Pool*; and begins at the Turning of the River out of *Limehouse Reach*, and extends

extends to the *Custom-house* Quays. In this Compass I have had the Curiosity to count the Ships as well as I could, *en passant*; and have found about 2000 Sail of all Sorts, not reckoning Barges, Lighters, or Pleasure-boats, and Yachts; but of Vessels that really go to Sea.

It is true, the River, or *Pool*, seemed at that time to be pretty full of Ships; as also that I included the Ships which lay in *Deptford* and *Blackwall* Reaches, and in the Wet Docks; but then I did not include the Men of War at the King's-yard, and at the Wet Dock at *Deptford*, which were not a few.

In the River there are, from *Battle-bridge*, on the *Southwark* Side; and the *Hermitage-bridge*, on the City Side; reckoning to *Blackwall*, inclusive;

3 Wet Docks for laying up	} Merchant-ships.
22 Dry Docks for repairing	
33 Yards for building	

Including the Buildings of Lighters, Hoys, &c. but excluding all Boat-builders, Wherry-builders; and, above Bridge, Barge-builders.

To enter into any Description of the great Magazines of all manner of Naval Stores, for the furnishing those Builders, would be endless: 'tis sufficient to add, That *England* is an inexhaustible Store-house of Timber; and all the Oak Timber, and generally the Plank also, used in the building these Ships, is found in *England* only; and that principally in the Southern Counties near us; as particularly *Berks*, *Bucks*, *Surry*, *Kent*, *Sussex*, and *Suffolk*.

XIII.

*Of the Manner by which the City is supply'd
with Water.*

NO City in the World is so well furnished with Water as *London*, for the necessary Occasions there, as well as for the Extinguishing of Fires, when they happen.

1. By the great Convenience of Water, which being every-where laid in the Streets in large Timber Pipes, as well from the *Thames* as the *New River*, whose Pipes are furnished with a Fire-plug, of which the Parish-Officers have the Key; and when opened, let out, not a Pipe, but, as one may say, a River of Water into the Streets; so that making but a Dam in the Chancel, the whole Street is immediately under Water to supply the Engines.

2. By the great Number of admirable Engines, of which almost every Parish has one, and some Halls also, and several private Citizens, have them of their own; so that no sooner does a Fire break out, but the House is immediately surrounded with Engines, and a Flood of Water poured upon it, till it is extinguished.

3. The several Insurance-Offices, of which I have spoken in Article III. have each of them a certain Set of Men, whom they keep in constant Pay, and furnish with Tools proper for their Work, and to whom they give Jack Caps of Leather, able to keep them from Hurt, if Brick or Timber, or any thing not of too great a Bulk, should fall upon them. These Men, whom they call *Firemen*, make it their Business to be ready at Call, all Hours, to assist in case of Fire; and it must be acknowledged, they are very dextrous, bold, diligent, and successful.

There are Two great Engines for the raising the
Thames

Thames Water, one at the Bridge, and the other near *Broken-wharf*.

However, the *New River*, which is brought by an artificial Stream from *Ware*, continues to supply the greater Part of the City. Of this River I shall take farther Notice in my Description of *Hertfordshire*, where it takes its Rise.

The *Chelsea Waterworks*, as they are called, are also of no small Use for the new Buildings at that End of the Town. There is a noble Cut (which is a large, tho' not long, River of itself) from the *Thames* to near *Buckingham House* Garden-wall, where are Two Engines which work by Fire alternately for raising the Water into large Iron Pipes, through which it is conveyed to a great Reservoir of Water, in *Hyde-park*, to answer the above Purpose.

Shadwell Waterworks supply the Eastern Parts beyond the *Tower*; and there are lately Waterworks at *Bow*; but it is apprehended they will not find Tenants enough to support their Expences.

Formerly there were several beautiful Conduits in *London*, the Water of which was very sweet and good, and brought to them at a vast Expence from several distant Springs, in large Leaden Pipes: some of these were rebuilt since the Fire; but now the City is so well supplied with Water, that they are either quite demolished, or intirely out of Use. That in *Cheapside* was the last pull'd down; and a Statue proposed to be built in its Place, in Honour of the great King *William III.* and it must be owned, that it is one of the most commodious Places for such a Purpose in the whole City. But it being set on Foot, as some thought, by Party on one Side, was rejected, from far less laudable Motives, by Party on the other.

To sum up my Description of *London*, take the following Heads. There are in this great Mass of Buildings, thus called *London*.

One Cathedral.	131 Charity-schools, in London and Westminster, and 10 Miles round.
Two Collegiate Churches.	15 Markets for Flesh.
Choirs of Music.	2 for live Cattle.
46 Parishes.	2 Herb-markets.
9 Chapels, where the Church of <i>England</i> Service is performed.	23 other Markets.
Churches at <i>Deptford</i> , not taken into the Limits now described.	15 Inns of Court or Chancery.
8 Foreign Churches.	4 Fairs.
Besides Dissenters Meetings of all Persuasions.	27 Squares, besides those within any single Building, as the <i>Temple</i> , <i>Somerset-house</i> , &c.
Popish Chapels; and	6 public Bridges, including the new one at <i>Westminster</i> .
<i>Jews</i> Synagogues.	A Town-house, or <i>Guild-hall</i> .
There are also 13 Hospitals, besides lesser Charities, called <i>Alms-houses</i> , of which they reckon 100, many of which have Chapels for Divine Service.	A Royal Exchange.
Colleges.	A Custom-house.
7 Public Prisons.	3 Artillery-grounds.
Public Schools, called <i>Freeschools</i> .	4 Pest-houses.
	2 Bishops Palaces.
	3 Royal Palaces.

XIV.

*Of the Christenings and Burials in London, &c.
Of the Importance of the City of London to the whole Kingdom. Of its comparative Proportion to the public Expence of the Kingdom, and the disproportionate Number of Members it returns.*

LET us now mention something briefly in relation to the yearly Births and Burials of this extended City: from an Account of which Sir *William Petty* thought

thought he might make some Calculations of the Numbers of the Inhabitants. And I shall only take notice, that whereas the general Number of the Burials in the Year 1666. and farther back, were from 17000 to 19000 in a Year, the yearly Bill for the Year 1750. amounted as follows :

Parishes	Christen'd.	Bury'd.
In the 97 Parishes within the Walls	1090	1987
In the 17 Parishes without the Walls	4184	5826
In the 22 Out-parishes in <i>Middlesex</i> and <i>Surry</i>	} 5692	11016
In the 10 Parishes in the City and ——Liberties of <i>Westminster</i>		
146	14548	23727

Here is to be observed, that the Number of Burials exceeding so much the Number of Births, is, because, as it is not the Number born, but the Number christened, that are set down, which is taken from the Parish Register; so all the Children of Dissenters of every Sort, *Protestant*, *Popish*, and *Jewish*, are omitted, also all the Children of Foreigners, *French*, *Dutch*, &c. which are baptized in their own Churches, and all the Children of those who are so poor, that they cannot get them registred: so that if a due Estimate be made, the Births may be well supposed very much to exceed the Burials.

London returns Four Members to Parliament, *Westminster* Two; and these Six, with Two for the County of *Middlesex*, make Eight, which is all that this exceeding populous County returns, although every single Ward, in *London*, is far superior to most of the Boroughs in *England*, and really to many of the greater Towns, that are represented by Two Members, and contributes infinitely more to the public Charge: and, indeed, one may ask, What are the greatest Part of the Boroughs in the County of *Cornwall*, and many in that of *Devon*, which Two Counties alone return 70 Members, compared to 20 populous Villages one might

might name in the Neighbourhood of *London*? Some of which, no doubt, would be considered, were a new Repartition of this kind practicable, and many of those petty Boroughs be obliged to give up to them: a Scheme that must be set on foot under a very undesigning and honourable Administration, for Reasons too obvious to need particularizing.

The following Scheme, though calculated before the *Union*, and consequently before the 45 Members, which represent *North Britain*, were added to the 513, returned for *England* and *Wales*, will set this Matter in a still clearer Light.

A SCHEME of the Proportions the several Counties in *England* paid to the Three Shillings AID, 1699. compared with the Number of Members they send to Parliament.

In this Scheme the Proportions are thus considered; *viz.* That as the whole Kingdom sends 513 Members to Parliament; so the whole Tax is divided into 513 equal Parts.

Column { 1. Shews the Name of the County.
2. How many Parts of the 513 each County paid.
3. How many Members of the 513 each County send.

COUNTIES.	P.	M.	COUNTIES.	P.	M.
Bedford,	7	4	Monmouth,	3	3
Berks,	10	9	Norfolk,	22	12
Bucks,	12	14	Northampton,	12	9
Cambridge,	9	6	* Northumberland,	4	8
Chester,	7	4	Nottingham,	7	8
* Cornwall,	8	44	Oxon,	10	9
* Cumberland,	1	6	Rutland,	2	2
Derby,	6	4	Salop,	7	12
* Devon,	21	26	Somerfet,	19	18
* Dorset,	9	20	* Southampton,	14	26
* Durham,	3	4	Stafford,	7	10
Essex,	24	8	Suffolk,	20	16
Gloucester,	12	8	Surry,	18	14
Hereford,	5	8	Suffex,	16	28
Hertford,	11	6	Warwick,	10	6
Huntingdon,	4	4	* Westmorland,	1	4
Kent,	22	18	* Wilts,	13	34
* Lancaster,	5	14	Worcester,	9	9
Leicester,	9	4	* York,	24	30
Lincoln,	19	12	Wales,	11	24
Middlesex,	80	8	All England and Wales,	513	513

Note, That the Proportion of the Six Northern, and Five Western Counties, marked thus, *, are P. M.
103 216
And that *Middlesex* and *Essex* are P. M.
104 16

Cities are included in their respective Counties.

XV.

The Benefit to the Public of a good Understanding between the COURT and CITY.

HAVING shewn the Grandeur and Importance of this great Metropolis, it remains only to observe, How necessary it is for the Good of the whole Kingdom,

Kingdom, that there should be a right Understanding cultivated between the Administration and that. For,

There has formerly been a great Emulation between the *Court-end* of the Town, and the *City*; and it was seriously proposed in a certain Reign, how the *Court* should humble the *City*; nor was it an impracticable Thing at that time, had the pernicious Scheme been carried on. Indeed it was carried further than consisted with the Prudence of a good Government, or of a wise People; for the *Court* envy'd the *City's* Riches, and the Citizens were ever jealous of the *Court's* Designs. The most fatal Steps the *Court* took at that time to humble the *City*, were, 1. The shutting up the *Exchequer*: And, 2. The bringing a *Quo Warranto* against their Charter. But these Things can but be touch'd at here. The *City* has outlived it all; and both the Attempts turned to the Discredit of the Party who pushed them on. The *City* is, indeed, and at all times must be, so necessary to the *Court*, that no prudent Administration will ever seek Occasions for Misunderstandings with it; but will, if not infatuated, do all in its Power to encourage and increase the Opulence of the *City*, which, upon any Emergency, will be able and willing, if not disobliged, to support the *Court*, and furnish Means to protect the Kingdom, against either Foreign or Domestic Enemies.

And here I will close my Account of this famous Metropolis, and with it my Letter; being, Sir,

Yours, &c.



LETTER III.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION of Part of MIDDLESEX; and of the whole County of HERTFORD.

S I R,



THE Villages round *London* partake of the Influence of *London*, as I have taken notice in the Counties of *Essex*, *Kent*, and *Surry*.

Hackney and *Bromley* are the first Villages which begin the County of *Middlesex*, East; for *Bow*, as reckoned to *Stepney*, is a Part of the great Mass. This Town of *Hackney* is of large Extent, containing no less than Twelve Hamlets, or separate Villages, tho' some of them now join; viz.

<i>Church-street,</i>	<i>Clapton,</i>	<i>Shacklewell,</i>
<i>Homerion,</i>	<i>Mare-street,</i>	<i>Dalston,</i>
<i>Wyck-house,</i>	<i>Mell-street,</i>	<i>Kingsland,</i>
<i>Grove-street,</i>	<i>Cambridge-heath,</i>	<i>Newington.</i>

All these, tho' some of them are very large Villages, make up but one Parish, and are, within a few Years, so increased in Buildings, and so well inhabited, that

that there is no Comparison to be made between their present and former State; every separate Hamlet being increased, and some of them more than trebly bigger than formerly they were.

Hackney is so remarkable for the Retreat of wealthy Citizens, that there are, at this time, near an Hundred Coaches kept in it.

Newington, Tottenham, Edmonton, and Enfield, stand all in a Line North from the City. The Increase of Buildings is so great in them all, that they seem, to a Traveler, to be one continued Street; especially *Tottenham* and *Edmonton*; and in them all, the new Buildings so far exceed the old, especially in their Value, and the Figure of the Inhabitants, that the Fashion of the Town is quite altered.

At *Tottenham* we see the Remains of an antient Building called the *Cross*, from which the Town takes the Name of *High-Cross*.

Highgate and *Hamstead* are next on the North-side. At the first is a very beautiful House built by the late Sir *William Ashurst*, on the very Summit of the Hill, and with a View from the very lowest Windows over the whole Vale, to the City; and that so eminently, that they see the Ships passing up and down the River, for Twelve or Fifteen Miles below *London*.

As the County does not extend far this Way, I take no notice of smaller Towns; nor is there any thing of Note but Citizens Houses for several Miles; except the Chace, at *Enfield*, which was a very beautiful Place, when King *James I.* resided at *Theobalds*, for the Pleasure of his Hunting; and was then very full of Deer, and all sorts of Game; but it has suffered several Depredations since that, and particularly in the Times of Usurpation, when it was stript both of Game and Timber, and lett out in Farms to Tenants for the Use of the Public.

After the Restoration it was laid open again; Woods and Groves were every-where planted, and the whole

Chace stored with Deer: but it is not, nor perhaps ever will be, what it was.

Hamstead is risen from a little Village, almost to a City; nor could the uneven Surface, inconvenient for Building, check the Humour of the Builders; for even on the very Steep of the Hill, where there is no walking Twenty Yards together, without tugging up, or straddling down a Hill, the Buildings are increased to that Degree, that the Town almost spreads the whole Side of the Hill.

The Heath extends about a Mile every Way, and affords a most beautiful Prospect; for we see here *Hamstap Steeple* one way, which is within Eight Miles of *Northampton*, N. W. to *Landown-hill* in *Essex*, another Way East, at least Sixty-six Miles from one another. The Prospect to *London*, and beyond it to *Banstead-downs*, South; *Shooters-hill*, South-east; *Red-hill*, South-west, and *Windsor-castle*, West; is also uninterrupted. Indeed, due North, we see no farther than to *Barnet*, which is not above Six Miles from it.

Besides the Long Room at *Hamstead*, in which the Company meet publicly on a Monday Evening to play at Cards, &c. Mr. *Vipand*, the Master of that, built, in the Year 1735. a fine Assembly-room, Sixty Feet long, and Thirty wide, elegantly decorated; every one who does not subscribe, pays half a Crown for Admittance. Every Gentleman who subscribes a Guinea for the Season, has a Ticket for himself, and for Two Ladies. Gentlemen and Ladies, who lodge in the Town, are entertained every Sunday for 6 *d.* each, with Tea and Coffee; but with no other Amusements, but what they find out for one another, and from one another.

I could not be at *Hamstead* without making an Excursion to *Edgware*, a little Market town, on the Road to *St. Albans*; for 'tis certain, that this was formerly the main Road from *London* to *St. Albans*, being the famous high Road, called *Watling-street*, which reached

reached from *London* to *Shrewsbury*, and on towards *Wales*.

Near this Town, the late Duke of *Chandos* built one of the most magnificent Palaces in *England*, with a Profusion of Expence, and so well furnished within, that it had hardly its Equal in *England*. The Plastering and Gilding were done by the famous *Paragotti*, an *Italian*. The great *Salon* or Hall was painted by *Paolucci*. The Pillars supporting the Building were all of Marble: the great Staircase was extremely fine; and the Steps were all of Marble, every Step being of one whole Piece, about 22 Feet in Length.

The Avenue was spacious and majestic, and as it gave you the View of Two Fronts, join'd, as it were, in One, the Distance not admitting you to see the Angle, which was in the Centre; so you were agreeably drawn in, to think the Front of the House almost twice as large as it was.

And yet, when you came nearer, you were again surpris'd, by seeing the winding Passage opening, as it were, a new Front to the Eye, of near 120 Feet wide, which you had not seen before; so that you were lost a while in looking near at hand for what you so plainly saw a great Way off.

The Gardens were well designed, and had a vast Variety in them, and the Canals were large and noble.

The Chapel was a Singularity, both in its Building, and the Beauty of its Workmanship; and the late Duke, at one time, maintained there a full Choir, and had the Worship perform'd with the best Music, after the Manner of the Chapel Royal.

Sorry I am, that I am oblig'd to say, that all these Beauties *were*, instead of *are*. But such is the Fate of sublunary Things, that all this Grandeur is already at an End! The Furniture and Curiosities have been brought to public Auction; and this superb Edifice is quite demolished. The shortest Duration that perhaps

ever great House had, where the Possessor fell not under the public Censure, or by the Malignity of powerful Enemies, making him a Sacrifice to the Passions of a Prince, as has been the Case in less happy Governments than the *British*. We shall not enter into the Causes of this unhappy Catastrophe. But if we did, it would appear, that the Great Founder was more to be pitied, and even admired, than blamed, having stood in the Gap to prevent, as he hoped, a more general Ruin to a Society which he was at the Head of; but which could only be postponed, and not prevented, and swallowed up the Fortune of one of the most munificent and princely-spirited Noblemen that ever adorned this Nation.

The Fields between *London* and this Place are constantly kept in Grass, there being scarce any arable Land intervening; and it is chiefly from hence that *London* is supplied with Hay; so that it is no uncommon thing, to see an Hundred Loads of Hay go up to *London* on a Market-day, and each of these Teams bring back a Load of Dung for dressing the Land; which preserves the Ground in *good Heart*, as it is termed by the Farmer; and thereby it produces constantly good Crops.

Two Miles from *Edgware*, we go up a smaller Ascent by the great Road; when leaving the Street-way on the Right, we enter a spacious Common called *Busby-beath*, where again we have a very agreeable Prospect. On the Right-hand, we have in View the Town of *St. Albans*; and all the Spaces between, and farther beyond it, look like a Garden. The inclosed Corn-fields make one grand Parterre: the thick-planted Hedge-rows seem like a Wilderness or Labyrinth; the Villages interspersed look like so many several noble Seats of Gentlemen at a Distance. In a Word, it is all Nature, and yet looks like Art. On the Left-hand we see the West-end of *London*, *West-*
minster-

minster-Abbey, and the Parliament-house; but the body of the City is cut off by the Hill, at which *Hamstead* intercepted the Sight on that Side. More to the South we have *Hampton-Court*, and S. W. *Windsor*, and, between both, those beautiful Parts of *Middlesex* and *Surry*, on the Banks of the *Thames*, which are the most agreeable in the World. But I must travel no farther this Way, till I have taken a Journey West from *London*, and seen what the Country affords that Way.

The next Towns, adjacent to *London*, are *Kensington*, *Chelsea*, *Hamersmith*, *Fulham*, *Brentford*, *Twickenham*, &c. all of them near, or adjoining to, the River of *Thames*; and which, by the Beauty of their Buildings, make good the North Shore of the River, answerable to what I have already described.

But here I ought not to omit mentioning the new Bridge from *Fulham* to *Putney*, cross the *Thames*; which is an handsome wooden Fabric, and as convenient, by its many angular Indentings, for Foot-Passengers, as for Horses and Coaches. A Toll is paid for every one that passes it, let it be ever so often in a Day; and the Rate pretty much the same as the Ferry used to be. But as the Proprietors are said to divide 10 or 12 *l. per Cent.* from the Profits of it, 'tis pity, methinks, that Foot-Passengers, who cannot hurt the Bridge, should pay at all.

Kensington cannot be named without mentioning the King's Palace there: it was originally an old House of the Earl of *Nottingham's*, of whom King *William* bought it, and then enlarged it as we see; some of the old Building still remaining in the Centre of the House.

The House itself fronts to the Garden Three Ways; the Gardens being now made exceeding fine, and enlarged to such a Degree, as to reach quite from the great Road in *Kensington Town*, to the *Acton Road*

North, more than a Mile, besides a great Track of Ground out of *Hyde-Park*. The noble Rivulet that is lately dug in *Hyde Park*, and, generally, though improperly, called *The Serpentine River*, looks finely from these beautiful Gardens, and is a great Ornament to them. The first Laying out of these Gardens was the Design of the late Queen *Mary*; who, finding the Air agreed with the King, resolved to make it agreeable to herself too, and gave the first Orders for enlarging them.

Queen *Anne* improved what her Sister began, and delighted very much in the Place; and often was pleased to make the Green-house, which is very beautiful, her Summer Supper-house.

And her late Majesty Queen *Caroline* completed the Whole, by the Additions just now mentioned.

As this Palace opens to the West, there are Two great Wings built, for receiving such as necessarily attend the Court, and a large *Port-cocher* at the Entrance, with a Postern, and a Stone Gallery, on the South-side of the Court, which leads to the great Stair-case.

It is no Wonder, the Court being so much at *Kensington*, that that Town has increased in Buildings; and indeed it abounds with handsome Houses, and has a very pretty Square. *Holland-House* and *Camden-House*, in its Neighbourhood, are fine old Seats.

South of *Kensington* stands *Chelsea*, at which Place is the noblest Building, and one of the best Foundations of its kind in the World, for maimed and old Soldiers, built by Sir *Christopher Wren*. It is a fine Structure, extremely convenient, and worthy of the admirable Architect; less magnificent and costly, indeed, than that of *Greenwich* for Seamen: but had the former been the Model for the latter, the Difference in the Expence would have provided for twice the Number of superannuated Sailors: and were the Salaries and Port of the Officers in both so reduced,

is the Nature and Design of an *Hospital* require, that is to say, were the principal ones contented to live as Gentlemen only, and not as Persons of high Rank and Distinction, emulating, as some have heretofore done, the first Quality in the Kingdom, Luxury would not have dared to shew its Face in Walls consecrated to Charity; nor would there have needed so great a Part of the Structure to be taken up in Houses of Officers, and some of them rather resembling Palaces than what they are. *Plain* or *neat*, methinks, should be the essential Characteristics of Houses thus devoted; and those who would not have been so satisfied, should not either have sought or accepted of the Offices; much less should any of them have been made *Sine cures*.

At *Chelsea* also is the *Physic-garden* belonging to the Company of *Apothecaries* of *London*.

Sir *Robert Walpole*, afterwards Earl of *Orford*, had a fine House at *Chelsea*, adjoining, in a manner, to the Royal Hospital. It was adorned with noble Pictures. But the House, having been sold by the late Earl, is now in other Hands.

Near the said Hospital were, till within these few Years, a neat and beautiful House and Gardens, built by the late Earl of *Ranelagh*. But the Gardens and Out-buildings have been quite destroyed, and the Ground sold out in Parcels to Builders, and other Purchasers.

The Mansion is now turned into a Breakfasting-House, and dedicated to that Luxury which overspreads the Face of the Nation. A Rotonda, as I may call it, is erected in the Gardens, to propagate Sound for Sense, and to feast the Eyes of Belles and Beaux, who croud thither to become Spectacles to one another, for the Benefit of the Proprietors of the Undertaking. As to the Building itself, it is a fine Structure, and one of the largest Rooms in the World, being 130 Feet Diameter. A standing Monument of the predominant Taste of the present Age.

Marybone Gardens, Sadler's Wells, and a Variety of such sort of Houses of Entertainment about *Islington*, hardly to be numbered, and all boasting of their Bands of *Music*, besides what I have taken notice of at *Dulwich, Putney, Ruckholt*, are Emanations, as I may call them, from the Two grand Seminaries of Luxury, **RANELAGH**, and **VAUX-HALL GARDENS**; at both which Places a Profusion of Expence has not been spared to invite Persons of both Sexes to meet, to assist in and promote the Propagation of these Amusements; which, under the Names of Breakfasting-Places, Concerts, Balls, Assemblies, &c. have overrun the Kingdom; and which equally threaten a general Dissolution of Manners as a Dissipation of Fortunes.

The serious Readers, I am sure (and you, Sir, to whom I address these Letters, calculated for the public View), who wish the lasting Prosperity of the famous Kingdom which I am describing, and which, hitherto, has been the Envy of all its Neighbours, but which now is carrying its glorious Liberty into a Licentiousness as enervating to the Mind as to the Body, will not be displeased with my honest Warmth on this Occasion, and with perusing here a few cursory, but not unseasonable, Observations on a Subject of this Importance.

I shall first take notice, that the Expences of the Public are very high, the Debt we labour under is very large, and our Taxes, how necessary soever, *very heavy*: from all which I conclude, that **INDUSTRY** ought to be as much encouraged as possible, and that every thing capable of lessening it ought to be the Object of Censure.

It is our *Industry* that changed the Face of this Country from what it was, and proved thereby the Source of our Liberty and Property. It is our *Industry* that is the Basis of Domestic and Foreign Trade, and, consequently, the sole Fountain of our Riches.

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In short, it is our *Industry* that must maintain us, enable us to do Justice to others, and to live happily ourselves; for without it we can do neither.

But of late, so many Inventions are started up to defeat this great Principle of our Freedom and Felicity, as seem loudly to demand the Notice of the Public.

In the *Winter*, Balls, Concerts, Operas, *Assemblées*, *Masquerades*, *Ridottos*, *Rout*, *Drums*, and Twenty other Diversions, to the very Names of which I am a Stranger, continually solicit People to be idle.

In the *Summer*, there is no stirring at any Corner, without meeting with Places devoted to *Amusement*, or, in plain English, to driving away all Thoughts of *private Oeconomy*, or of *public Spirit*: and this, at a time, when the Nation, as well as Individuals, are very far from being overburdened with Wealth.

I would not hereby insinuate, that *all* Diversions should be suppressed; but the Reason of Mankind plainly proves, that they ought not to be indulged without Restriction. Why, in particular, should Contrivances be permitted, or connived at, and that for the sake of a very few, who set them on Foot for their own sordid Interest, to seduce those who ought to work, to think Work a Burden, and a Slavery? Our Ancestors had Holidays; with us it is Holiday all the Year round. Formerly, People danced now-and-then in an Evening: Now, *Sundays* excepted, People dance every Morning of the Week.

Evening Collations had some Reason; but for public Breakfasts, Dinners with Music, and Afternoon Entertainments, what Reason can be given? Or what must be our future Condition, who in the present decaying State of our Trade, when we have more formidable Rivals than ever in our foreign Commerce, think only of the Means of forgetting our Danger, and, consequently, of letting Things become daily worse and worse? Is this either false, or exaggerating?

ting? And if true, can there be any thing more deplorable?

Can there be any thing either more barbarous, or more unjust, than to countenance Inventions for making Beggars, who are afterwards to be maintained by the Fruits of other Peoples Labours; so that the best Members of Society are left to drudge for the worst?

The principal and genteelest public Diversions were formerly confined to the Metropolis; and those chiefly to the Two Theatres: and these were resorted to only in the Evening, and by those who lived at a Distance, perhaps but once a Year.

But we have seen, besides the Breakfastings, an Attempt lately made (*Anno 1747. in the Haymarket*) to engage the Mid-day Hours, and very much resorted to by all Ranks of People; and had it continued to meet with Success, would have been followed, no doubt, by Inventions of the like Kind; and then we should have sacrificed the whole Day to any thing that carried not the Face of Business, and useful Employment; and the Eye and the Ear would have run away with the rest of the Senses.

It may be said, that these Diversions procure many People (But *who* are the People?) a Living, cause a great Circulation of Money, and increase the Revenue. And this is a Part of that *Man-Devil* Doctrine, too successfully propagated of late Years, *That private Vices are public Benefits*. But is it just, that Men should grow rich by any other than honest Employments? That the Manners of a Nation should be debauched for the gratifying of private Avarice, or the supplying of the Necessities, which the Inventors have, perhaps, by their own Extravagance, brought upon themselves? Does the Nation grow rich by idle Peoples tossing Money from Hand to Hand? A Nation of Trade and Business more especially!—If so, Gamesters must be Patriots!—In the best Light that this Argument can be placed, the Augmentation of the public Revenue;

Revenue; ought such a Consideration to take place of INDUSTRY, by which alone the Public can be a durable Gainer?

It is to be hoped, that these Evils are near, if not at, their Height; and that they will soon, from the Necessity of the Case, become a Subject for the Animadversion of a *British* Parliament. But to return:

There is an incredible Number of fine Houses in all these Towns, or near them; which in other Places would pass, in a manner, for Palaces.

Among these are the late Lord *Peterborough's* at *Parsons-green*; Lord *Halifax's* at *Busby-park*; Earl of *Strafford's*, Earl of *Shrewsbury's*, Earl of *Burlington's*, Earl of *Grantham's*, the late Lord *Wilmington's*, all at *Chiswick*; the late Secretary *Johnson's*, at *Twickenham*; and Multitudes of others.

But I must not pass over so slightly, the noble Seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of *Burlington*, at *Chiswick*, which was a plain useful House, with a Number of good Offices about it: but as a Part of the old House was destroyed some Years ago by Fire, his Lordship erected a beautiful Villa near to the old House; which, for Elegance of Taste, surpasses every thing of its kind in *England*, if not in *Europe*. The Court in Front of the House is of a proportionable Size to the Building, which is gravelled, and kept always very neat. On each Side are Yew-hedges, in Panels, with *Termini*, placed at proper Distance; in Front of which are planted Two Rows of Cedars of *Libanus*, which at present have a fine Effect to the Eye, at a small Distance from the House; for the dark Shade of these solemn ever-green Trees occasions a fine Contrast with the elegant white Building which appears between them.

The Ascent to the House is by a noble Flight of Stone Steps, on one Side of which is the Statue of *Inigo Jones*, and on the other that of *Palladio*. The Portico is supported by fine fluted Pillars, of the *Corinthian*

thian Order ; and the Cornice, Frize, and Architrave, are as rich as possible ; so that the Front of this Building strikes every Person (though not a nice Judge of Architecture) with uncommon Pleasure.

The other Front towards the Garden is plainer ; but yet is very bold and grand, having a pleasing Simplicity, as hath also the Side-front, toward the *Serpentine River*, which is different from the other Two.

The Inside of the House is finished in the highest Taste, the Cielings being richly gilt and painted ; and the Rooms are filled with some of the best Pictures in *Europe* ; and though the House is small, yet it would take up more Room than can be allowed here, to describe the particular Beauties of it.

The Gardens are also laid out in an elegant Taste. When you descend from the House, you enter on a Lawn of Grass, planted with Clumps of ever-green Trees, between which are Two Rows of large Stone Vases. At the Ends next the House, are Two fine Wolves in Stone, cut by Mr. *Sceidmaker* the famous Statuary : and at the farther End are Two large Lions ; and, to terminate this View, are Three fine antique Statues, which were dug up in *Adrian's* Garden at *Rome*, with Stone Seats between each ; and on the Back of the Statues is a close Plantation of Ever-greens, which terminates the Prospect.

On the Right-hand, as you go from the House, you look thro' an open Grove of Forest-trees, to the Orangery ; which is separated from the Lawn by a Faussee, to secure the Orange-trees from being injured by Persons who are admitted to walk in the Garden ; so that they are seen as perfectly (and when the Orange-trees are in Flower, the Scent is diffused over the whole Lawn to the House) as if the Trees were placed on the Lawn.

On the left-hand you have an easy Slope of Grass down to the *Serpentine River*, on the Side of which
are

re Clumps of Ever-greens, which make agreeable Breaks to the Eye, between which the Water is seen; and at the farther End is a Peep into an Inclosure, where are an Obelisk and a *Roman Temple*, with Grass Slopes, and a circular Piece of Water in the Middle.

From this Lawn you are led to the Wilderness, through which are three strait Avenues, terminated by Three different Buildings; and within the Quarters are Serpentine Walks, thro' which you may walk near a Mile in constant Shade.

On each Side the Serpentine River are Grass Walks, which follow the Turns of the River; and on the Right-hand of the River is a Building, which is the exact Model of the Portico of *Covent-Garden Church*; and on the Left is a Wilderness, which is laid out in regular Walks.

Over the River, in the middle Part, is a *Palladian* Bridge of Wood.

Next the Road, his Lordship has raised a Terrace (with the Earth which came out of the River), from whence you have a Prospect of the adjacent Country; and when the Tide is up, you see the Water of the *Thames*, with the Boats and Barges passing, which greatly enlivens the Prospect. In a Word, there is more Variety in this Garden, than can be found in any other of the same Size in *England*, or perhaps in *Europe*.

At *North-End*, near *Hammersmith*, are the handsome House and finely disposed Gardens, of the Earl *Brooke*, and of the late Sir *John Stanley*, a Gentleman of equal Honour, Politeness, Learning, and Knowledge; which fine Qualities, and his beneficent Mind, and Charities, made him an Ornament to the Age he lived in, and, tho' he dy'd in a good old Age, infinitely regretted by all who had the Honour of his Acquaintance.

I have

I have now travers'd the best Part of *Middlesex*, a County made rich, pleasant, and populous, by the Neighbourhood of *London*. The Borders of the County have Three Market-towns, *Stanes*, *Colbrook*, and *Uxbridge*: the last is a pleasant large Town, full of good Inns, as the others are, and famous, in particular, for having abundance of fine Seats of Gentlemen, and Persons of Quality, in the Neighbourhood. I should never have done, were I to pretend to describe, tho' ever so slightly, the large Towns on both Sides the River; as

Lambeth,
Battersea,
Wandsworth,
Fulham,
Putney,
Barnet,

Roehampton,
Hammersmith,
Mortlack,
Brentford,
Kew,
Richmond,

Isleworth,
Twickenham,
Paddington,
Acton,
Ealing,
 And others:

All crowded and surrounded with fine Houses, or rather Palaces, of the Nobility, Quality, and Gentry, of *England*.

But I should be guilty of a great Neglect, if I passed by that equally elegant and noble Structure called *Gunnerybury-house*, belonging to *Henry Furness, Esq;*

It is situated near *Ealing*, between the Two great Western Roads, and stands on an Eminence, the Ground falling gradually from it to the *Brentford* Road; so that from the Portico in the Back-front of the House, you have an exceeding fine Prospect of the County of *Surry*, the River of *Thames*, and all the Meadows on the Borders for some Miles, as also, in clear Weather, a good View of *London*. This House was built by *Mr. Web*, who was Son-in-law to the famous *Inigo Jones*; and, indeed, the Architecture shews, that if it was not plann'd by that celebrated Architect himself, it was designed by some Scholar of his; for altho' the Building is as plain as possible, yet there is a simple Boldness in it, which

graces

graces all the Works of that excellent Artist; rarely to be found in those of other Architects.

The Apartments in the House are extremely convenient, and well contrived. The Hall is very large, having Rows of Columns on each Side. From thence you ascend, by a noble Flight of Stairs, to a Salon, which is a double Cube of Twenty-five Feet, and most elegantly furnished.

From this Room is the Entrance to the Portico on the Back-front of the House, which is supported by Columns, and is a delightful Place to sit in, during the Afternoon, in the Summer-season; for, as it faces the South-east, the Sun shines on it no longer than Two of the Clock; but, extending its Beams over the Country, which is open to the View, renders the Prospect very delightful.

On going out of the House into the Garden, you ascend a noble Terrace, the whole Width of the Garden, whence you have a fine Survey of the neighbouring Country, and on which you may walk dry after the greatest Rains. From this Terrace you descend to the Garden by a beautiful Flight of Stone Steps, the upper Part of which is concave, with a grand Stone Balustrade on each Side, as also on the Coping of the Wall the Length of the House, which makes a fine Appearance from the Road: but the Gardens are laid out too plain, having the Walls in View on every Side.

There are but Three more Market-towns in *Middlesex*; viz. *Brentford*, the County-town, *Edgware*, and *Enfield*; the Neighbourhoods of all which are adorned with Seats of the Gentry, many of which might deserve a particular Description, had I room to give it.

And now I enter the County of *Hertford*, a fruitful Soil, as it is managed; for 'tis certain, it is more indebted, for its Fertility, to the Sagacity and Industry
of

of the Husbandman, than to Nature. Rich Meadows are seldom found here; for it affords not any large Rivers: the Arable hath generally too much Gravel, or too much Clay; but these last cold and wet Lands have been within these Forty Years greatly improved, by draining off the Rain-water, which stagnated on the clayey Surface, as in a Cup, and chilled the Roots of the Corn; an Invention, called *Bushdraining*.

The County is well-watered for the Conveniency of the Inhabitants; tho' the *Lea* is the only navigable Stream in it, which has its Rise in *Bedfordshire*; of which more anon. But this County assumes the Honour of giving Rise to several Rivers; viz. the Parish of *Tring* to the *Thames*, which, leaving the County at *Puttenham*, goes by *Aylesbury* to *Thame*, and thence by *Wheatley-bridge* to *Dorchester*, and falls into the *Isis*.

The County may be divided into Three Parts pretty equal, by Two great Roads, one Part lying between the North Road, which goes thro' *Hertford* to *Nottingham*, &c. and the Borders of *Cambridgeshire* North, and those of *Essex* East. Another Part lying between that Road and the other, which leads thro' *St. Albans* to *Coventry* and *Chester*; and the Third lying between this last Road, and the Borders of *Middlesex*, South, and those of *Bucks* West.

I shall begin with the last at *East-Barnet*, a Thoroughfare-town of Note, and well supplied with Inns: it lies high and pleasant, and was formerly frequented for its medicinal Waters, and now for its Swine-market. It has in its Neighbourhood several very handsome Houses of the *Londoners*, and which are the more pleasant by being so near the Chace.

Totteridge is near it also, and is a very pleasant Village. It is situated on a fine Eminence, looking to the North, over the *St. Albans* Road into the Forest; and on the South, over the *Edgware* Road, to *Harrow*, &c. It is very clean, and has several very good Houses in it. The Road from *Hamstead*, here, is extremely pleasant,
and

and so well repaired, that in the worst Season there is scarce any Water or Dirt remaining in it; and as it lies not on any great Road, there are no heavy Carriages passing that Way; therefore a small Expence annually, well laid out, will always keep this Road in excellent Repair.

Cheaping-Barnet lies a little North, in the *St. Albans* Road; and is remarkable for the decisive Cattle fought there on *Easter-day* 1468. between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, in which the great Earl of *Warwick*, styled *Make-king*, was killed, with many of the prime Nobility, and 10,000 Men. The Place supposed to be the Field of Battle, is a green Spot near *Kicks-end*, between *St. Albans* and *Hatfield* Roads, a little before they meet. And here, *Anno* 1740. a Stone Column was erected, on which is a long Inscription, giving a particular Account of that Battle. The Manor is in the Property of the Duke of *Chandos*. An handsome Row of Six Alms-houses, for so many Widows, founded by *James Ravenscroft*, Esq; in 1672. with a little Furniture to each, is in the Street. *Queen Elizabeth* built a Freeschool-house of Brick in the same Street, where Nine Children are taught gratis, and all other Boys at Five Shillings the Quarter.

About Two Miles N. W. from hence, on the Left-hand, lies *Durhams*, formerly the Seat of the *Austins*, but is now the Property of the Earl of *Albemarle*, who purchased it of Sir *John Austin*, and has since greatly beautified the Seat, by laying most of the neighbouring Fields belonging to the Estate, into a Park, and turning and repairing of the Roads. The House stands on an Eminence, situated in a small Valley, surrounded with pretty high Hills at a little Distance, so that in the Summer Months it is an agreeable Retirement: but the Soil all around it being a strong Clay, all the Rain which falls in Winter being detained on the Surface, renders the Situation very cold and moist. Add to this the want of good Water and Timber near the House
(except

(except the young Trees, which have been planted by his Lordship); and, upon the Whole, it cannot be esteemed a good Seat.

Idlestrey or *Elstre*, is a Village on the *Roman Watling-street*, on the very Edge of *Middlesex*; but it is chiefly noted for its Situation, near *Brockley-hill*, by *Stammore*, which affords a lovely View cross *Middlesex*, over the *Thames*, into *Surry*. Near this is *Kindale Wood*, where formerly was found an old Flint-Wall, so hard as not to yield to the Strokes of the Pick-ax; as likewise an Oven. Mr. *Philpot*, digging his Canal, and Foundations for his Buildings, upon the Spot of the old City *Suellaniacis*, found many Coins, Urns, and other Antiquities. They have a Proverb here, relating to the Antiquities:

*No Heart can think, nor Tongue can tell,
What lies 'tween Brockley-hill and Pennywel.*

Pennywel is a Parcel of Closes across the Valley beyond *Brockley-hill*, where Foundations are discernible, and where, they say, has been a City.

About Two Miles farther West lies *Watford*, a Market-town, Seventeen Miles from *London*, upon the *Colne*, where it hath Two Streams, which run separately to *Rickmersworth*. Several Alms-houses belong to this Town, and an handsome Freeschool, built in 1704. and finished 1709, by *Elizabeth Fuller*, Widow; and in the Church are several handsome Monuments. The Town is very long, having but one Street, which is the public, and so is extremely dirty in Winter; and the Waters of the River, at the Entrance of the Town, were often so much swelled by Floods, as to be unpassable. But, in the Year 1750. at the Entrance of *Watford*, the Road was raised by a voluntary Subscription; whereby the River is now confined within its Bounds, and every Disadvantage formerly experienced intirely removed.

Cassioterry.

Cassioberry, the Seat of the Earl of *Essex*, is the next thing that occurs worth notice, and is elegant. The Situation is the best in the County, upon a dry Spot, within a Park of a large Extent: the House is built in Form of an Ξ : the Middle and the East Wing is modern, and in good Repair; but the West Wing is very old, and by no means corresponding with the other Parts of the House. The Front faces the South-east, and looks directly on the House in *More-Park*, on which the late Mr. *Stiles* expended such great Sums of Money, and which has a noble Aspect from *Cassioberry-House*. In the Front of the House is a fine dry Lawn of Grass, which immediately after the heaviest Winter Rains may be rode or walked on, as on the driest Downs; and a little below the House is a River, which winds through the Park, and in the driest Seasons constantly runs with a fine Stream, affording great Plenty of Trout, Cray-fish, and indeed most other Kinds of Fresh-water Fish. On the North and East-sides of the House are large Wood-walks, which were planted by the famous *Le Notre*, in the Reign of *Charles II.* The Woods have many large Beech and Oak-trees in them; but the principal Walks are planted with Lime-trees, and these are most of them too narrow for their Length, and too regular for the modern Taste. On the other Side of the River, the Ground rises to a considerable Height, which affords an agreeable Variety; Part of which being covered with stately Woods, appearing at a proper Distance from the Front of the House, have a fine Effect to the Eye. In short, the whole Spot (if a small Expence were bestowed to improve and put it more in the modern Taste) would be one of the finest Places near *London*.

Near *Cassioberry* is a pleasant Seat, belonging to Lord *Raymond*, called *Langleybury*.

Rickmersworth is a Market-town, within Three or Four Miles West of *Watford*. It gave Birth to Sir *Thomas White*, Merchant-Taylor of *London*, who founded

founded *Gloucester-hall*, and *St. John's College* in *Oxford*. Here are Two Alms-houses, one for Four, the other for Five Widows.

We visited in this Neighbourhood *More-Park*, with a fine House in it, of the late Duke of *Monmouth*, standing upon the Side of the Hill, facing *Cassioberry*, on the other Side of the River. It has been allowed one of the best Pieces of Brick-work in *England*. Sir *William Temple* commends the Garden as one of the best laid out in *England*. The Duchess of *Monmouth*, on whom it was settled by Marriage, sold it in 1720. to *Benjamin Heskins Stiles*, Esq; who built a South Front of Stone with Colonnades, by which an Opening was made thro' the Hill, that once obstructed its View toward *Uxbridge*. A North Front was also erected, and the Hill towards *Watford* cut thro' for a Vista. In digging this Hill, Veins of Sea-sand, with Mussels in it, were found.

Abbots-Langley, 22 Miles from *London*, situated about Three Miles North of *Cassioberry*, in a good Air and Soil, is remarkable for the Birth of an *English* Pope, *Nicolas Brakespear*, by the Title of *Adrian IV*. The Emperor *Frederic* held his Stirrup, while he dismounted. He was choaked, as some say, by a Fish, and, as others, by a Quinsy: but it is an indeble Stain on his Memory, that, when Sovereign Pontiff, he suffered his Mother to be maintained by the Alms of the Church of *Canterbury*.

We proceeded to *Kings-Langley*, so called, because *Henry III*. built himself a Royal House here, of which the Ruins still exist; and here was born and buried *Edmund de Langley*, Duke of *York*, Fifth Son of *Edward III*. and his Wife *Isabel*, youngest Daughter of *Don Pedro*, King of *Castile*, was also buried here; and the Tomb is in the Church of this Place.

We next went to *Hempsted*, a little farther North, and about 23 Miles from *London*, a Bailiwick Corporate Town. It has the greatest Corn-market in the County,

or perhaps in *England*; in which 20,000 *l.* a Week are frequently returned for Meal only. Eleven Pair of Mills stand within Four Miles of the Place, which bring a great Trade to it: but the Road is by this means so continually torn, that it is one of the worst Turnpikes round about *London*.

A little North of *Hempsted* we turned West, and came to *Great Barkhamsted*, about 24 computed Miles from *London*. It is a very antient Town, which for many Hundreds of Years has been one of the Crown Manors, which granted to it many very ample Privileges. It is now annexed to the Dukedom of *Cornwall*. The Castle and Manor are at present held, by Lease from the Crown, by *Edward Carey, Esq*; which was obtained by his Ancestors of *Queen Elizabeth*.

Barkhamsted has evidently been a *Roman* Town, by the Name of *Durobrivæ*; and probably the Castle stands upon a *Roman* Foundation. *Roman* Coins are frequently dug up there. It is most pleasantly environed with high and hard Ground, full of Hedge-rows, Pastures, and Arable, tho' situated upon the South-side of a Marsh. It extends itself far in handsome Buildings, and a broad Street. In the Time of the Heptarchy, it was the Residence of the Kings of *Mercia*; and here *Wightred*, King of *Kent* and *Mercia*, in the Year 697. held a Parliament: here also King *Ina's* Laws were published.

The Castle was judiciously set on the North-side of the Town, on dry Ground, among Springs, and made exceedingly strong by the *Saxons*. It was rebuilt by *Moreton*, Earl of *Cornwall*, Brother to *William the Conqueror*, and rased for Rebellion in his Son's Time, and so, with the Manor, fell to the Crown. *Henry II.* kept his Court here, and granted great Privileges to the Place. The Castle was afterwards rebuilt, as it is thought, in the Reign of King *John*; for the Dauphin of *France*, in Conjunction with the Barons, besieged

sieged it, and the Defendants surrendered not till they had the King's Orders for it.

When the Castle was demolished, a large House was built out of its Ruins, which is beautifully situated. What now remains of it is but the third Part, and the Back of the great House; for the other two Thirds were destroyed by Fire, in the Reign of *Charles I.* It was in *K. James's* Time a Nursery for that Prince's Children; and Prince *Henry* and Prince *Charles* were bred up there; and in the Time of the Grand Rebellion, Colonel *Axtel*, a Parliament-Officer, held it. It is now in the Possession of the *Roper* Family.

The Corporation sunk in the War between the King and Parliament. In King *Charles II.*'s Time an Attempt was made to revive the Charter; but it was dropt. This Body Politic is now reduced to a Skeleton, like the Castle; which is only to be known by its Moats and Walls.

The Castle contains, within its first Moat, Four or Five Acres. There is again a Division by another Moat. The South Part, consisting of about Two Acres, is upon a Level with most of the outward Walls and Chimneys remaining. Towards the North, across a Moat, is an high Hill, or Keep, capable of defending itself against the former, if possessed by an Enemy. The Traces of the Bridge of Communication, and the Moat dividing these Two Places of Strength, are continued to the grand one, that takes in the whole Site of the Fortification. The Remains of the Bridge for Entrance from the Town are visible, answering exactly to the other, as the North of the first Area, which led to the Hills.

In this Town was the famous Interview between *William the Conqueror* and the *English* Nobility, in his March towards *London*, after his Victory over *Harold*. He passed the *Thames* at *Wallingford*, and was going forward to *St. Albans*, when the stout Abbat *Frederic* stopped his March, by Trees, &c. till he could get the

English

English Nobility together ; and then he made him swear to keep inviolably the good and antient Laws of the Kingdom ; yet he took away all their Lands, and divided them among his hungry *Normans*.

This Town gives Name to the Deanry. The Church is handsome, dedicated to *St. Peter* ; it has had many Chapels and Oratories. On the Pillars of the Church are the Eleven Apostles, with each of them a Sentence of the Creed, and *St. George* killing a Dragon, on the Twelfth. These were whited over by the Zeal of the late Times, and are but lately come to Light.

The Chapel of *St. John* is used only by the Master, Ushers, and Scholars of the Freeschool. *St. Leonard's* Hospital was at the South-east End of the High-street, and *St. James's* Hospital at the other End. The free Grammar-school was built by Dean *Incent*, of *St. Paul's*. It is an handsome brick Structure, with an Apartment at one End for the Master, at the other for the Usher and Chantry-Clerk. It was 20 Years in building.

Tring, being 28 computed Miles from *London*, is a small Market-town, standing upon the Extremity of *Hertfordshire*, next to *Buckinghamshire*, East of, and near, the *Ikening-street*.

It is very antient, and was formerly a Royal Manor ; but now possessed by Mr. *Gore*, who has made a Park of 300 Acres, of which Part is on the *Chiltern*. In it is a beautiful Wood inclosed, lying close to the *Ikening-street*. Mr. *Gore* has beautified and wainscoted the Church in a most elegant Manner, and gives 20 *l. per Annum* for a Charity-School. The Church is an handsome Pile of Building, with a Ring of Six Bells. The Chancel was wainscoted by Sir *Richard Anderson*. It is decent and capacious, and worthy of a Choir. Both Church and Chancel are paved with Free-stone ; the Pillars are painted ; the Pulpit and Sounding-board are of fine Inlaid-work ; and an handsome Vestry is under the Belfry.

Among other Monuments is a magnificent one for Sir *William Gore* and his Lady; with Inscriptions to their Honour.

The People of this Place must be believed to be highly addicted to Superstition, if we form our Notions of them from the Barbarity great Numbers of them exercised, in the Month of *April* 1751. thro' the Instigation of a Publican, who took himself to be bewitched by one *Ruth Osburne*, and her Husband, Two poor Creatures; whom, after various Instances of the most diabolical Rage, under Pretence of the exploded Trial of Ducking, they dragged about the Length of Two Miles, and threw into a muddy Stream; thro' which ill Usage the Woman died, and for which one *Collins* suffered Death.

This melancholy Event, however, may contribute to demonstrate the Wisdom of the Legislature in that Act which we shall, in our Account of *Lancashire*, observe was passed in the 9th Year of his present Majesty, in order to prevent ignorant or malicious People from wreaking the sad Effects of their Superstition or Cruelty on their innocent, perhaps helpless, and, as here, decrepit Neighbours, the true Objects of Humanity and Charity, not of lawless Barbarity, and wild Enthusiasm.

From *Tring*, I passed next Eastward, and came to *Gadesden-Little*; where I had heard was a fine Prospect, and I wanted not Curiosity to see it. This Vill has *Cawley-Wood* and *Ivingo-Hills* on the North-west, *Aldbury-Cliffs* on the South-west, *Dunstable-Downs* to the North. The Prospect I mean is from one Part of this Parish, to which a Common of fine Turf leads under the Duke of *Bridgewater's* shady Park; and a noble one it is of three Counties, worthy of the Pencil of the greatest Artist in Landscapes.

The Variety of Woods, Cliffs, Arable and Pasture, are charming; but one must be tempted to half a Mile's pleasant Exercise to get to the beautiful Scene.

Cawley-

Cawley-wood, belonging to the Duke of *Bridgwater*, is a small Covert, a Mile from hence, at the Top of a Hill, in *Bucks*, one of the greatest Landmarks in the South of *England*, which overlooks Eleven Counties. It stands as a Monument to shew, notwithstanding all the modern Improvements, that Nature will not be outdone by Art.

Now I am on this Subject, I shall just mention *Penley-lodge*, for a most delightful Retirement to a Man who wants to deceive Life, in an Habitation which has all the Charms Nature can give. There is behind a large Common of fine Turf, bounded by a Wood on the West, to which if one ascend a Quarter of a Mile, he has a View of *Northamptonshire* and *Warwickshire*. From the House, a semicircular Prospect of *Bedfordshire*, *Middlesex*, and *Bucks*; a bended one towards *Ivingo* and *Aldbury-Cliffs*, with the shady Woods of the Dukes of *Leeds* and *Bridgwater* seeming to hang over the Rivulet called *Bulborn*.

The Manor of *Aldbury* lies North-east of *Tring*, and in the Way to *Gadesden*. It belongs to the Duke of *Leeds*, whose Father married the Heiress of the Family of *Hyde*; and so does *Muniborough-Hill* lie in the Way from *Aldbury* to *Little-Gadesden*, and affords an handsome Prospect.

Ashbridge stands near *Aldbury*, but in *Bucks*, an antient Mansion-house, and fine Park, belonging to the Duke of *Bridgwater*.

Gadesden is famous for the Birth of *John de Gadesden*, who flourished in the Beginning of the Fourteenth Century; the first *Englishman* who was a Court Physician, and of whose Skill *Chaucer* makes honourable Mention, in his *Doct̃or of Physic*, prefixed to his *Canterbury Tales*; tho' Dr. *Freind*, from *John's* own Books, will not allow him to deserve it. There are several Monuments in the Chancel of this Church of the *Bridgwater* Family; whose finely situated Seat and Park at *Ashbridge*, formerly a Royal House of

Pleasure, and where *Edward I.* held a Parliament in the Nineteenth Year of his Reign, is in this Parish, but in the County of *Bucks.* The Duke is Lord of this Manor, as also of that of *Great-Gadesden.*

I cross'd over a Slip (as I may call it) of *Bucks.* which runs into *Hertfordshire*, between *Aldbury* and *Kensworth-Green*, which lies a little South of the Road which leads from *St. Albans* to *Dunstable*, and is a Situation surprisingly fine, about half a Mile in Length, a good Turf, and level, with *Whipsnade-Woods* on the Back of it, and Rows of high Trees on the other Side. Nothing but Sky is to be seen from it one Way; and the other we have only a View of the Top of a Grove, at *Market-Cell.* It seems to claim a Preference of every Place in the County for a Cell; yet never had one on it: it comes very little short of the famous *Guy's Cliff*, near *Warwick.* There the shady Grove, and rolling Stream below it, make a beautiful Scene for Solitude: here the Woods and Trees afford Shade enough, and the pure circumambient Ether, with nothing in View but the Tops of Trees, would make an Hermit think himself another World.

Here I came into the Road, and so turned South-east for *St. Albans*, thro' *Flamstead* Parish, where is a well-built and delightful Seat of Sir *Thomas-Saunders Sebright*, Bart. on a rising Ground in the Middle of a Park. It is called *Beechwood-Manor*, from the great Number of fine Beech-trees which were formerly growing here, some of which are yet remaining on the Sides of the Park. The Soil of this Park is, for the most part, dry, the Surface being shallow, on a strong or chalky Bottom, which renders the Turf very fine and short, and very pleasant for the Exercise of either Riding or Walking. It was formerly a Nunnery for a Prioress and Ten Nuns, independent of any other Convent, and then called *St. Giles in the Wood.*—A very serious Inscription in *Flamstead* Church, on a Monument of one of the *Saunders* Family, may be worth transcribing, as
it

it certainly is a Piece of sound Doctrine, in which every living Man may find an Use.

“ He that looks hereon may consider how fleeting
 “ all worldly Comforts are, and how great a Vanity
 “ it is to place his Affection thereon. Such Things
 “ there are as worldly Comforts, 'tis true ; but they
 “ ought to be looked on as *little Streams* ; and who-
 “ ever delights in them, more than in the FOUN-
 “ TAIN from whence they proceed, may soon find
 “ them dry and vanished. The Truth of which he
 “ that wrote this hath sensibly found ; and wills others
 “ to place their Affections chiefly on that OBJECT OF
 “ LOVE, which is unchangeable, and is the Centre
 “ of all true Joy and Felicity.”

Pursuing still the same Course along the great Road, we came next to *St. Albans*, the capital Town of *Hertfordshire*, famous for deriving its Name from the Protomartyr of *England*, who suffered so early as in the Third Century. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, Ten Burgeses, a Steward, and a Chamberlain ; and is a peculiar Liberty both for Ecclesiastical and Civil Government ; and returns Two Members to Parliament.

The Town rose out of the Ruins of old *Verulam* ; of which so much has been said by Mr. *Camden*, and others, that we refer to them for Particulars. In that great Man's Time, the Ruins afforded much more for the Observation of the Curious than now ; for they are since dug away, for mending the Highways. The first *Verulam* was stormed and taken by *Julius Cæsar*. And here *Cassibelan*, a famous *British* King, then kept his Court. The first Destruction of the Place is supposed to have been by *Boadicea*, the famous *British* Queen, who cut off 70,000 *Romans* in one Battle ; and the second (which was erected on the Ruins of the other) in the Wars between the *Britons* and *Saxons* ; and almost infinite are the Numbers of Antiquities here dug up.

The Origin of *St. Albans* was owing to the Monastery built by *Offa*, King of the *Mercians*, to the Memory of *St. Alban*, in Expiation of his barbarous Murder of *Ethelbert*, King of the *East-Angles*, whom he had treacherously inveigled to his Court, on Pretence of marrying his Daughter; and the same *Offa* it was that built *Hertford Church*, and dedicated it to *St. Ethelbert*, and made a Journey to *Rome* as further Penance, where he was absolved, tho' he kept the murdered Prince's Dominions, and joined them to his own.

Of all the Monasteries in *England*, none could outshine this. Its Revenue was great, and its Privileges still greater. In the Royalties it had from its Founder, and the Episcopal Powers from the Pope, none came up to it. The mitred Abbat had Precedency of all in *England*, and was subject to no Ecclesiastical Power, but the Pope immediately; and he had Episcopal Jurisdiction over both Clergy and Laity, in all the Lands belonging to his Monastery. From first to last they were 41 in Number, and many of them Persons of great Accomplishments, and high Birth: the 39th of which, though not high-born, was Cardinal *Wolsey*. The last Abbat was *Richard Boreman*, who at the Dissolution quietly surrendered on the Royal Command, and accepted of a Pension for Life of 266 *l.* 13 *s.* and 4 *d.*

Two bloody Battles were fought near this Place between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*: the first upon the 23d of *May* 1455. in which the *Yorkists* got the Day; the second on *Shrove-Tuesday*, in the 39th of *Henry VI.* when the martial Queen *Margaret* overcame the *Yorkists*, who had then the King in their Power, and fought under the Sanction of his Name.

But we must not dismiss this Subject, without giving some brief Particulars of the famous Abbey-Church. We have before observed, that it was founded by King *Offa*; but it has been rebuilt in Whole or Part several times.

times. The Town purchased it at the Dissolution, for 400 *l.* which prevented so noble a Fabric being pulled down, and torn to Pieces, for making Money of the Materials; and it is made a Parish-Church for the Borough. The High Altar is a curious Piece of Gothic Architecture.

Within the North Entrance is *Offa* on his Throne. Underneath,

Fundator Ecclesiæ circa annum 793.

*Quem male depictum, et residentem cernitis alte
Sublimem solio, MERCIUS OFFA fuit.*

That is:

The Founder of the Church, about the Year 793.

Whom you behold ill-painted, on his Throne.
Sublime, was once for MERCIAN OFFA known:

In the most Eastern Part of the Church stood the Shrine: Six Holes remain in the Pavement, where the Supporters of it were fixed. The Inscription is still to be seen:

S. ALBANUS VEROLAMENSIS, ANGLORUM
PROTOMARTYR, 17. Junii 293.

On the South-side of the Shrine, in the Wall of the South Isle, is Duke HUMPHRY's Monument, with the Arms of *France* and *England* quartered, and a ducal Coronet. In Niches on the South-side are 17 Kings; the Niches on the other Side have none remaining.

Piæ Memorix V. Opt. Sacrum.

*Hic jacet HUMPHREDUS, Dux ille Glocestrius olim,
Henrici sexti Protector, fraudis ineptæ
Detector, dum ficta notat miracula cæci.*

*Lumen erat Patriæ, Columnen venerabile Regni,
 Pacis amans, Musisque favens melioribus; unde
 Gratum Opus Oxonio, quæ nunc Schola sacra refulget.
 Invida sed Mulier Regno, Regi, sibi nequam,
 Abstulit hunc, humili vix hoc dignata Sepulcro.
 Invidia rumpente tamen, post Funera vivet.*

In English thus :

Sacred to the pious Memory of an excellent Man.
 Interr'd within this consecrated Ground
 Lies he, whom *Henry* his Protector found,
 Good *Humphrey*, *Glo'ster's* Duke, who well could spy
 Fraud touch'd within the blind Impostor's Eye *.
 His Country's Light, the State's rever'd Support,
 Who Peace, and rising Learning, deign'd to court ;
 Whence his rich Library, at *Oxford* plac'd,
 Her ample Schools with sacred Influence grac'd :
 Yet fell beneath an envious Woman's Wile,
 Both to herself, her King, and Kingdom, vile ;
 Who scarce allow'd his Bones this Spot of Land :
 Yet, spite of Envy, shall his Glory stand.

It is about 40 Years ago, that, digging for a Grave, the Stairs, leading down to the Vault where the Body lies, were discovered.

In the Vault is a leaden Coffin, with the Body preserved by the Pickle it lies in, except the Legs, from which the Flesh is wasted, the Pickle of that End being dried up. On the Wall at the East-end of the Vault is a Crucifix painted, with a Cup on each Side of the Head ; another at the Side, and a fourth at the Feet. The Vault is very neat, and hath no offensive Smell. The Coffin, we are told, had an Outside of Wood, which is intirely gone.

The West-end of the Choir hath a noble Piece of Gothic Workmanship, for the Ornament of the High

* Alluding to a pretended miraculous Cure of a blind Man, detected by the Duke.

Altar. Capt. *Polehampton*, about 40 Years ago, gave an Altar-piece, which represents the last Supper.

There are many curious Medals and Coins to be seen in the Church, which have been dug out of the Ruins of old *Verulam*.

This noble Fabric hath wanted its Abbat's Zeal, and Purse too, for Repairs, since it hath been a Parish-Church. The Roof was preserved by Contribution of the Nobility and Gentry of *England*, many of whose Arms are put upon this Occasion; and Money has been collected several times besides for its Support: indeed such a fine Fabric must too often stand in need of such Helps, as there is no settled Fund to maintain it.

There are Three Churches in the Town at present, besides the Abbey-Church; viz. *St. Michael's*, *St. Peter's*, and *St. Stephen's*.

There were also formerly belonging to this Town *St. German's Chapel*, *St. Mary Magdalen's Chapel*, *St. Julian's Hospital*, the Hospital of *St. Mary des Prees*, the Nunnery of *Sopwell*, &c. But they are all demolished and secularized. There was also, in the Town, the Parish-Church of *St. Andrew*; but that had dropped down before the Dissolution.

Near this Place was *Sopwell Nunnery*, where they say King *Henry* was married to *Anne of Bolen*. In the Heart of the adjoining Corporation stood one of Queen *Eleanor's* Crosses, demolished by the Inhabitants.

In the Neighbourhood of *St. Alban's* is *Gorbambury*; where is a Statue of King *Henry VIII.* with other things worthy a Traveller's Curiosity. It is now the Seat of the Lord Viscount *Grimston*: but what it will be always most famous for, is, that the Manor was the paternal Estate of that Mirror of all Ages, and Ornament of his Country, for Learning, *Francis Bacon*, created Lord *Verulam*, and Viscount of *St. Albans*, once Lord Chancellor of *England*, who first revived Experimental Philosophy; of whose Merits, Rise, and Fall, we shall say nothing, but refer our Readers to his Life, written by

the ingenious Mr. *Mallet*. Sir *Thomas Meautys*, who had been the Secretary of this wonderful Man, and to whom he conveyed this Estate, in Gratitude, erected a Monument for him in *St. Michael's Church* in this Town, sitting thoughtfully in an Elbow-chair.

The Monument bears this Inscription :

Francisc. Bacon, Baro de Verulam, Sti. Albani Vicco.
Seu notioribus Titulis,

Scientiarum Lumen, Facundiæ Lex,
Sic sedebat.

Qui, postquam omnia Naturalis Sapientiæ

Et Civilis Arcana evolvisset,

Naturæ Decretum explevit,

Composita solvantur,

An. Dom. 1626. Ætat. 66.

Tanti Viri Mem. Thomas Meautys, Superstitis Cultor ;
Defuncti Admirator.

Thus translated:

Francis Bacon, Baron of Verulam, and Viscount of St. Albans ; or by his more known Titles, The Light of the Sciences, and the Law of Eloquence ; was thus accustomed to sit ; who, after having unravelled all the Mysteries of Natural and Civil Wisdom, fulfilled the Decree of Nature, *That Things joined should be loosed*, in the Year of our Lord 1626. and of his Age 66.

To the Memory of so great a Man, this was erected by *Thomas Meautys*, who revered him while living, and admires him dead.

The Manor of *Kingsbury* was sometime the Residence of the *Saxon* Monarchs, whence its Name. It had a Castle, which was kept up till King *Stephen's* Time, when it was demolished, and the Site given to the Abbey.

The

The late Duchess Dowager of *Marlborough* had a Seat here, built by the late Duke upon the River *Verlam*, which runs thro' the Garden; and who also built handsome Alms-houses at the Entrance of the Town.

The following remarkable Inscription and Character is cut upon the Pedestal of a fine Statue of the late Queen *Anne*, carved by the noted Mr. *Rysbrack*, and erected at *St. Albans*, at the Expence of the Duchess, in Gratitude to the Memory of that excellent Princess:

‘QUEEN ANNE was very graceful and majestic in her Person: Religious without Affectation. She always meant well. She had no false Ambition; which appeared by her never complaining at King *William*’s being preferred to the Crown before her, when it was taken from the King her Father, for following such Counsels, and pursuing such Measures, as rendered the Revolution necessary. It was her greatest Affliction, to be forced to act against him, even for Security. Her Journey to *Nottingham* was never concerted, but occasioned by the great Consternation she was under at the King’s sudden Return from *Salisbury*.

‘She always paid the greatest Respect to King *William* and Queen *Mary*; never insisted upon any one Circumstance of Grandeur, more than what was established in her Family by King *Charles II.* tho’, after the Revolution, she was presumptive Heir to the Crown, and, after the Death of her Sister, was in the Place of Prince of *Wales*.

‘Upon her Accession to the Throne, the Civil List was not increased. The late Earl of *Godolphin*, Lord High Treasurer of *England*, often said, that, from Accidents in the Customs, and Lenity in the Collection, it did not arise, one Year with another, to more than Five hundred thousand Pounds a Year.

‘She had no Vanity in her Expences, nor bought any one Jewel in the whole Time of her Reign.

‘She

' She paid out of her Civil List many Pensions granted in former Reigns, which have since been thrown upon the Public.

' When a War was necessary to secure *Europe* against the Tower of *France*, she contributed, in one Year, towards the War, out of her Civil List, One hundred thousand Pounds, in Ease of her Subjects.

' She granted the Revenue arising from the First Fruits, to augment the Provisions of the poorer Clergy.

' She never refused her private Charity to proper Objects.

' Till a few Years before her Death, she never had but Twenty thousand Pounds a Year for her Privy-Purse. At the latter End of her Reign, it did not exceed Twenty-six thousand Pounds a Year; which was much to her Honour, because it is subject to no Account. And as to her Robes, it will appear by the Records in the Exchequer, that in Nine Years she spent only Thirty-two thousand and Fifty Pounds, including the Coronation Expence.

' She was extremely well-bred, treated her chief Ladies and Servants as if they had been her Equals. Her Behaviour to all that approached her was decent, and full of Dignity; and shewed Condescension, without Art or Meanness.

' *All this I know to be true.*

' SARAH MARLBOROUGH.

' M.DCC.XXXVIII.'

At *Titinauger* near *Colney* is a very handsome Seat of Sir *Henry Pope Blunt*, standing about a Quarter of a Mile North of the Road. It seems to be very large; and the Fields and Meadows about it make it very pleasant in Summer.

Having thus gone over the first Part I proposed of this Country, which lies South and South-west of *St. Albans Road*, I shall now bend my Course North-east towards
Hertford,

Hertford, and from thence North-west, to take in such Part of the middle Division as lies between the Two capital Roads on that Side of *Hertford*; reserving that which lies East of it, for my Return towards *London*.

The next Town in my Way is *Hatfield*, 17 computed Miles from *London*: it is a Market-town; but much more famous is *Hatfield-house*, which lies near it; from whence K. *Edward VI.* and Queen *Elizabeth*, were both conducted to the Throne, having resided here for some time. King *James* made an Exchange of this Manor in the Fourth Year of his Reign, for that of *Theobalds*, as hereafter mentioned, with Sir *Robert Cecil*, afterwards Earl of *Salisbury*, who built this magnificent House, and made the Vineyard in the Park, thro' which the River *Lee* hath its Course, adorning that Garden. The Rectory of *Hatfield* is esteemed one of the best in *England*; *Winwick* in *Lancashire*, and another in *Durham*, have larger Revenues; but this has a better Situation.

Saundridge, which lies a little North-west of *Hatfield*, deserves to be mentioned, as it gave Title of Baron to the great Duke of *Marlborough*; and belonged to his Dowager, a Descendent of the Family of *Fennings*, of this Place. But one thing must be observed withal, that when I was there last, the Steeple lay buried in its own Rubbish, as it had done for 40 Years together; and the Bells hung in the Church behind the Door; and this, I suppose, continues to be its present State.

North-Mylms stands a little East of *Colney*, and is remarkable for having in its Neighbourhood the Seat of the late Sir *Joseph Jekyll*, Master of the Rolls, in Right of his Lady, who was Heir to her late Brother the great Lord *Somers*. It has a most delightful Prospect. The Body of that noble Lord lies interred in the Chancel of the Church here, without any Inscription, in Allusion, as one would expect, to his Motto, *Prodesse quam conspici*. This Seat is now the Property

perty of his Grace the Duke of *Leeds* (who has put a great Part of the House and Gardens in good Repair), and is his Retirement from *London*, during any short Interval that may happen in the Sessions of Parliament.

We come now to *Hertford*, the County-town, 20 computed Miles from *London*; a Corporation governed by a Mayor and Burgeſſes. It is pleasantly ſituated in a whoſome Air, and a dry Vale, having a good weekly Market well ſtored with Corn, and all ſort of Proviſions. It is very antient, and is built in the Form of a Y, with a Caſtle in the Middle of the Two Horns. It contains ſeveral Streets and Lanes, well filled with handsome new-built Houſes. In *Edward III.*'s Time, it had petitioned to be diſburdened of the Expence of ſending Two Members to Parliament, on their Inability to pay their Representatives Wages: but 21 *Jac. I.* they petitioned to be reſtored to their Right, and ſucceeded.

There is a free Grammar-school for the Children of this Town, erected by *Richard Hale*, Eſq; in King *James I.*'s Reign. The Houſe, being rebuilt a few Years ago, is a very good one. Of the Five Churches *Hertford* once had, there are but two remaining, viz. *All Saints* and *St. Andrew's*.

Near *Hertford* is a Seat called *Ball*, of the late Governor *Harrifon*, ſituated on an Hill, which commands a Proſpect of the Country round it; as is likewise, in its Neighbourhood, a Seat of the *Clarks*, very delightfully ſituated alſo.

The Earl *Cowper* has an handsome Seat near *Hertfordbury*, in the Neighbourhood of *Hertford*, built by his Father the great Lord High Chancellor of that Name; who erected in the Church-yard, by his Mother's Deſire, a Tomb for her, with an Inſcription to her Honour.

Welwyn deſerves to be mentioned for its Spaw, now
newly

newly revived by the Reverend and Learned Dr. *Edw. Young* *.

In the Year 1751. the charitable Ladies at *Welwyn* promoted public Breakfasting; and the charitable Tanner of the Town accommodated them with his Barn, to promote their good Purposes: so that, notwithstanding the Fragrance of the Tanners Vats all around them, the Resort of Company is increasing beyond the Donor's Expectations.

The Waters have the same Qualities as those of *Tunbridge*; and were so reputed to have 50 Years ago; but an eminent Physician at that time, who was a great Patron of them, dying, they were neglected, till within these Six Years, that they were revived by the great Genius I have mentioned; who, in his own Case, has found them to have the same Effects, as those of *Tunbridge* used to have.

The Manor of *Gobions* lies a little North of *Hertford*, and will be for ever famous on occasion of its being the Family-seat of the great Sir *Thomas More*, Lord High Chancellor of *England* in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* who took off his Head, for refusing to acknowledge his Headships. It is now the Property of Sir *Jeremy Sambroke*, Bart. who for the Beauty of its Gardens, as well as the House, has made the Place one of the most remarkable Curiosities in *England*.

A little farther North, at *Wolton*, is the Mansion-house of the *Botelers*, finely situated on a rising Ground, and watered with small Streams, which fall into the *Beane*, on the South of it. It stands in a Park beautifully consisting of Hills and Flats, and esteemed for as good Timber as the Island produces. About 40 Years since, one Tree was sold for 43*l.* - Eighteen Horses were had to draw one Part of it, when flit; and out of it the Cut-water to the *Royal Sovereign* was

* Author of *The Last Day*; *The Universal Passion*; *Night-Thoughts*, &c. &c.

made. Another, called the *Walking stick*, might for Years ago have been sold for Fifty Guineas ; but was decaying when I was there, by the burrowing of Rabbits under it. There is a good Freeschool in the Village, for poor Children ; with some of whom 5 is to be given Apprentice.

Stevenage is 28 computed Miles from *London*, and lies North-west of *Hertford*. It is a small Market town : the Church stands upon an Hill, and consists of a Nave and Two Isles, and the Chancel hath a Chapel on each Side. In the Steeple is a Ring of Six Bells. Here is a good Freeschool, as well for Petit Grammar Scholars.

Walkern is near it, North-east, on the River *Beane*. I mention it on account of the poor *Jane Wenman* who 40 or 50 Years ago was tried for a Witch. At the last, we hope, that ever will undergo such a Trial in *England* ; the old obsolete Law against Witches being lately repealed. Mr. Justice *Powell* got a Reprieve for the poor Creature, after the Jury had found her guilty, contrary to his Directions. She lived several Years afterwards on an Allowance from the Parish. The deluded Wretch had been frightened into Confession, that she was a Witch ; and thereupon was committed by Sir *Henry Chauncey*, of *Yardlybury*, who would fain have had her retract, and pacify her Accusers. This Gentleman was one of the deprived Judges of *James II.* but it is said he never sat as Judge but one Day. He wrote *The Antiquities of HERTFORDSHIRE*.

It is reported likewise, that another Woman being tried before Judge *Powell*, who, among other things, that constituted her a Witch, had laid to her Charge That she could fly ; Ay ! said the Judge ; And is that true ? Do you say you can fly ? Yes, I can, said she. — So you may if you will, then, replied the Judge ; have no Law against it. And at the Tryal of *Jane Wenman*

Wenman, the Court being full of fine Ladies, the old Judge very gallantly told the Jury, "They must not look out for Witches among the Old Women, but among the Young."

I passed by *Benington-place*, late the Seat of the antient Family of the *Cæsars*; but a few Years since burnt down. There was formerly a Castle there; the Hill on which it stood still remains deep ditched.

At *Siffivernes*, in *Codicote* Parish, in the Year 1627. was a most prodigious Walnut-tree, covering 76 Poles of Ground. The Weight of the Boughs at last cleft the Trunk to the Ground. Mr. *Penn*, then Lord of the Manor, had 19 Loads of Planks out of it; a Gunstock-maker at *London* had as much as cost 10 *l.* Carriage: there were 30 Loads more of Roots and Branches. This was attested by *Edward Wingate*, before a neighbouring Justice of Peace, to whom Mr. *Penn* declared, he had been offered 50 *l.* for the Tree. And *Jasper Docura*, of the Parish, attested, That, when he was 15 Years old, the Compass of both his Arms would not reach it at Eight times.

Hitchin is a Market-town, lying in a Bottom, out of any great Road, distant from *London* 30 computed Miles, and within Three Miles of *Bedfordshire*. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff and Four Constables, and was formerly famous for the Staple Commodities of this Kingdom. The Church is large, dedicated to *S^t. Mary*. It consists of the Nave and Two Isles, with Two Chapels or Chancels. The Steeple has a Ring of Six Bells, but is low, and disproportionate to the Chancel. In the North-isle Window are Paintings of *Faith*, *Hope*, and *Charity*, and of the *Four Cardinal Virtues*; and, in the next North Window, the *Beatitudes*. The Front hath the Twelve Apostles round it; but they have been Sufferers from the booted Saints of *Forty-one*. There are many Monuments in it. A good Freeschool, and other charitable Benefactions, have been added to the Town.

I could

I could not miss taking notice of *Hexton*, on the North-west Edge of the County, next *Bedfordshire* where was a Battle between the *Danes* and *Saxons*; some Remains of which are visible between this Place and *Luton*, as large Barrows, &c. Half a Mile to the South of this Town is a fortified Piece of Ground called *Ravenborough-Castle*. The Camp is a sort of Oblong, containing about 16 Acres, the Fortification intire. Nature has so well strengthened it, that 1000 Men may defend it against a very great Army; it is encompassed with a Valley, and a very steep Hill inaccessible by an Army any-where but at the Point of Entrance, which is by a gradual Ascent of a Quarter of a Mile.

The *Beryslade*, an House then possessed by *John Cross*, Esq; tho' low, and in the Dirt, is now an agreeable Summer-house; which it owes chiefly to *St. Faith's Well*, a fine Spring at *Ravenborough*. A moory Piece of Ground, where the Spring rises, is cut into Canals, which are stocked with Trouts; many of them 22 Inches long. These, having been used to take their Food from the Master's Hand out of a Bowl with a long Handle to it, come rolling up to the Surface. The Bottom is white, either from Chalk or Sand; and so transparent, that every Fish may be seen that comes out of its Hole. To preserve them from groping, the Banks are wharfed, and in some Places supported with Timber; so that the Fish can shelter themselves underneath; and a Man must have his Head and Shoulders in Water, who stoops down to them. From hence the Water feeds a large Canal in the Garden, stored with Carp and Tench; and there might be made Basons or Canals to any Dimensions.

Near *Hexton* is a square *Roman Camp* upon a Promontory just big enough for the Purpose, and under it is a fine Spring.

Lilibo is a fine Plat of Ground upon an Hill, where a Horse-race is kept. It lies a little South of *Hexton*, just by the *Ikening*.

Near *Pirton* Church has been a Castle of the Saxons or Normans, with a Keep.

I proceeded next to *Baldock*, situated on the *Ikening-street*, as it leads from *Dunstable* to *Royston*. It is a large Market-town, 29 computed Miles from *London*. It is of chief Note for its many Maltsters. The Church stands in the Middle of the Town; it is an handsome high-built Edifice, with a Ring of Six good Bells. It has Three Chancels, but the Two outward are rather Chapels. The *Ikening-street*, about *Baldock*, now appears but like a Field-way. Between *Baldock* and *Icleford* it goes thro' an Entrenchment, consisting of the Remains of a *British* Town, now called *Wilbury-hill*. *Icleford* retains the Name of the Street, which at this Place passes a Rivulet with a strong Ford, wanting Reparation.

This Street, quite to the *Thames* in *Oxfordshire*, goes at the Bottom of a continued Ridge of Hills, called the *Chiltern*, being Chalk, and the natural and civil Boundary between the Counties of *Hertford* and *Bedford*, very steep Northward.

As the *Ikening-street* and the *Foss* traversed the Kingdom from South-west to North-east, parallel to each other, and *Watling-street* crossed these quite the contrary Way with an equal Obliquity, the *Herman-street* passed directly North and South. This Word is *Saxon*, and signifies a Soldier or Warrior, which Name is obtained from being a Military Way.

It begins at *Newhaven*, at the Mouth of the River *Ouse* in *Suffex*; and passes on the West-side of that River, thro' *Radmil*, then through *Lewis* by *Isfield*; after which it seems to pass over the River at *Sharn-bridge*, and so proceeds to *East-Grinstead*, but is lost in passing thro' the great Woods. Then thro' *Surry* it goes

goes by *Stane-street*, *Croydon*, *Stretham*; and by its pointing we may conclude was originally designed to pass the *Thames* at the Ferry called *Stangate* by *Lambeth*, where it coincides with the *Watling-street*. There the Road went, before *London* became considerable: but, since that Period, the Traces of the Roads near that Capital have grown very obscure. The original Road perhaps passes thro' unfrequented Ways near *Enfield* and *Herman-street*, which seems from thence to have borrowed its Name.

On the Eastern-side of *Enfield-Chace* by *Bush-hill*, is a circular *British* Camp upon an Eminence, declining South-west. But the antient Road appears upon a Common on this Side *Hertford* by *Ball's-park* and passes the River below *Hertford*; then goes thro' *Ware-park*, and falls into the present Road on this Side *Buntingford*, and so to *Royston*, where it crosses the *Ikening-street*, coming from *Tring* thro' *Dunstable* going into *Suffolk*. These are the principal Places upon the Two Roads, which we thought fit to mention together.

At *Baldock* I crossed the North Road, and got into the Third Division I proposed, next *Cambridgeshire* and *Essex*; and when I have 'passed thro' it, I will return back again South, and take a View of such Towns lying on the East-side of the middle Division as I have not been at already.

In the Year 1724. between *Caldecot* and *Henxworth*, several *Roman* Antiquities were dug up. Workmen, digging Gravel for the Repair of the great Northern Road, struck upon some earthen Vessels, or large Urns, full of Ashes, and burnt Bones but rotten; near them an human Skeleton, with the Head towards the South-east, the Feet North-west. Several Bodies were found in the same Position not above a Foot under the Surface of the Earth and with Urns, great or small, near them, and Patera's of fine red Earth, some with the Impression of

f the Maker at the Bottom; also Glafs Lacry-natories, Ampulla's, a Brafs Tribulus, Six small Glaffes, Two large Beads of a green Colour, and other Fragments.

I went through the Village of *Ashwell*, which stands not far from *Caldecot*, on the Source of the *Rhee*, by the Borders of *Cambridgeshire*, which breaks out of a Rock here from many Springs, with such Force as to form a Stream remarkably clear, but so cold, that it gripes Horses not used to drink it. The Water here bubbles out at as many Places, and as abundantly, and in just such a Bottom under an Hill, as doth the *Isis* or *Thames* in *Gloucestershire*. In *Domesday Book*, this Village is called a Borough, having 14 Burgeffes, and a Market; anciently also it had Four Fairs. Mr. *Camden* thinks the Village *Roman*; and at half a Mile Distance, South of this Source of the *Rhee*, is a Spot of Ground taken in by a *Vallum*, and generally thought to be one of the *Castra Exploratorum* of the *Romans*; it is called *Arbury Banks*, and consists of about 12 Acres; and *Roman* Coins have been found here; but still it wants several Requisites for a *Roman* Camp, which I have not room to particularize. *Ashwell-field* affords a Stone Quarry, out of which the Stones of most of the Churches of this Side, and the neighbouring Part of *Bedfordshire*, have been dug. The Church has an handsome Chancel, Three large Ssles, a lofty Tower at the West-end, with a Ring of Six Bells, and a Chapel on the North-side the Chancel.

I now come to *Royston*, situated upon the utmost Northern Border of *Hertfordshire*, insomuch that Part of it is in *Cambridgeshire*, 33 computed Miles from *London*. The Fields about this Town have upon almost every Eminence a Barrow; and they lie very thick by the *Ikening-street*, East of this Town.

Here

Here was a Monastery founded in Honour of St. *Thomas à Becket*, as also an Hospital, both swallowed up in the Dissolution of *Henry VIII.* but the Priory church was purchased by the Inhabitants, and made: Parish Church of. It consists of a Nave, with an Isle on each Side, and a Square Tower with a Ring of Five Bells in it.

The Town became populous, on erecting the present Post-road through it, which before ran along the *Herman-street*, through *Barkway* to *Biggleswade*. It is now a good Town, and well inhabited, and has a very great Corn-market on *Wednesdays*, and is full of good Inns. In the Year 1716. a School-house was erected here by Contribution of the Town and Country. But, on *Aug.* the 22d, 1747. a dreadful Fire happened, which consumed 36 Houses, and did other very considerable Damage; in which one Person lost 500 Quarters of Malt, and other Grain and Goods to the Amount of 2000 *l.*

Two Miles both Ways of *Royston* is chalky Soil about *Puckeridge* it is gravelly: in other Places adjoining are Camps, and *Roman* Antiquities. At *Hadstock* is the Skin of a *Danish* King nailed upon the Church doors, as reported.

Royston was a *Roman* Town before *Roisia* built her religious House here; for *Roman* Coins have been dug up near the Spot. There seems to be the Stamp of *Roisia's* Cross still remaining at the Corner of the Inn just where the Two Roads meet. The Earl of *Oxford* digging Canals at *Wimple*, when he had that Seat found many Bodies, and rusty Pieces of Iron, the Remains of some Battle.

And now I bend my Course Southward, toward *London*.

The Church of *Therfield*, which lies among the Hills, a little South of *Royston*, is obliged to *Francis* Lord Bishop of *Ely*, once Rector of it, who paved the

the Chancel with Free-stone, the Area of the Altar with Marble; wainscoted the Walls, made it into the Form of a Choir, and cieled it with Fret-work. 'Tis a Rectory of great Value, and is rated in the First-fruits Office at 50 *l.* a Year. Till lately was at *Therfield* Furniture of all Sorts for the Use of poor Peoples Weddings, such as was at *Braughing*; but they are now lost, or converted to other Uses, even literally to Plough-shares and Peas-hooks.

Barkway is a Market-town. The Church stands in the Midst of the Town, with an Isle on each Side, and a Tower with Five Bells, and a Turret-clock. The Creation of the World is painted on one of the Windows. In one Pane at Top is a bodily Representation of the Deity, as a Man in a loose Robe, down to his Feet, with the Globe before him, and the Motto under, *De opere primæ diei*. The next Pane has the same, with Hands expanded, standing on the Firmament, in the Midst of the Water; under which, *De opere secundæ diei*. The Third has the same Figure, among green Trees and Herbs; the Legend lost, and Three other Panes, in Order, under these. The Painting of the Fourth is lost. The Fifth has the same Figure, with Birds flying about it. A Piece of the Sixth remains, where Fowls and Beasts are brought to *Adam* to be named. Another Window, in the North Isle, has *St. George* slaying a Dragon, a Bishop; &c.

The *Roman Road*, called *Herman-street*, passes thro' the Parish of *Amstey*; and all the Way upon it we find Remains of Camps and Stations, exactly according to the Itinerary. The Castle, formerly here, was said to be built by *Eustace* Earl of *Bologne*, at the Conqueror's Command; and it is not improbable, that there were Fortifications before. It consisted of a Keep, or round artificial Hill, yet remaining, with a large and deep Fosse about it; the Mount, probably,

made from the Ditch. The Barons, in King *John's* Time, made another Retrenchment South of it, which would contain a Garison as numerous as the Castle would hold. *Henry III.* obliged *Nicolas de Avestic* to demolish the additional Fortification, and keep up only the old one.

The Church was built in the Reign of *Henry III.* as is said, out of the Stones of the demolished Fortifications made additional to the Castle. It is certainly very old, and built with a low Tower in the Middle, and Two Isles. The Chancel, perhaps, was rebuilt with the Materials of the Keep, being of later Date. It is large and lofty, and hath Stalls, as if for a Choir.

Buntingford is the next Town; noted for a great Thoroughfare. It is 28 computed Miles from *London*, and owes its Being as a Town to the present Post-road through it to the North. The first Mention of it is in the Reign of *Edward III.* who gave a Market and a Fair to it. It is situated in *Layston* Parish; but has a Chapel of Brick, built by Contribution for the Inhabitants here. *Dr. Seth Ward* Bishop of *Salisbury*, who died *Jan. 6. 1688.* built a neat Brick-house near the Chapel, for Four poor Men and Four poor Women, who had lived handsomely and came to Decay through Misfortunes; each of which has Two Rooms below, and Two above. *Buntingford* Free-school owes much also to the same worthy Prelate, who had his Education in it. He built 1683. an Hospital at *Salisbury*, for Ten poor Widows of Clergymen; was a Benefactor to *Layston*; gave good Sum of Money to make *Salisbury* River navigable; 600 *l.* to be laid out in Land, for putting out Three poor Children Apprentices, Two out of *Alford*, and One out of *Layston*, alternately. In short the good Bishop seems to have thought, that the Revenues he reaped from the Church, ought to have some other

other more public Designation, than to lift out of Obscurity a private Family.

Braughing lies a little on the East of the Road, was antiently, next to *Verulam*, the most considerable Place in the County, and is thought to have been the *Roman Cæsaromagum*, situated 28 Miles from *London*, as by *Antoninus's Itinerary*. It still has some Ruins of its antient Eminence, giving Name to the Deanry, and the Hundred. On the West-side the *Herman-street*, now the Road to *Cambridge*, we find the Ruins of a *Roman Camp*. The Church is an handsome Building, and hath a Ring of Five good Bells.

Near the Church-yard is an old House, at present inhabited by poor Families, which was given with all Sorts of Furniture for Weddings. They brought hither their Provisions, and had a large Kitchen, with a Caldron, large Spits and Dripping-pan; a large Room for Merriment; a Lodging-room, with a Bride-bed; and good Linen; some of which Furniture was in being a few Years ago.

This Provision was also at *Therfield*, and the Kitchen Utensils; but lately lost, as I have observed, p. 193.

We proceeded through *Puckridge*, a little Hamlet-town, but a great Thoroughfare, standing on the *Herman-street*, where are several good Inns for Travelers; and came to *Standon*, a small Market-town. The Church hath Three Isles; the Floor of the Chancel is Seven Steps above that of the Church, and the Altar Three Steps above the Chancel-floor.

Here we turn'd short to the East, to visit *Bishop-Stortford*, lying on the Borders of *Essex*, 27 Miles from *London*. The Conqueror gave this Town and Castle to the Bishop of *London*, whence its *Prænomens*; and King *John* seized and demolished it, for the Offence of the then Bishop, who was one of those who published the Pope's Interdict against the Nation. The Town, in the same Reign, was incorporated, and returned Members to Seven suc-

cessive Parliaments. The Bishop was restored by the same Prince, and Satisfaction made him for demolishing the Castle. The Hill or Keep of the Castle is artificial, made of Earth carried thither, with a Breast-work at Top, of Stones and Morter. A Bank of Earth leads from it through the moory Ground, on which it was situated, to the North-east. There is a large Wall from the Top of the Hill yet remaining. The Bishop's Prison was in being in Bishop *Bonner's* Time; though all the old Buildings are since demolished. But the Castle-guard is still paid by several Places to the Bishop, besides other Quit-rents.

The Town is large, and well-built; it is a Thoroughfare from *London* to *Cambridge*, *Newmarket*, and *St. Edmundsbury*, and full of convenient Inns. It is built in the Form of a Cross, having Four Streets turned to the Cardinal Points; and the River *Stort* runs through it.

The Church dedicated to *St. Michael* is lofty, and stands on high Ground; it hath a fine Ring of Eight Bells. There were antiently Three Guilds and a Chantry founded here. In the Church are Nine Stalls on a Side for a Choir. On the North-side the Church, is a Gallery for the young Gentlemen of the School, built by Contribution; upon it Sir *John Hobart's* Arms, who was educated there, and a great Benefactor to this Work.

At the West-end is another Gallery, built a few Years ago, upon which is an Organ; and it is observable, that there was an Organ in this Church so long ago as in the Reign of *Henry VII.* A new Font stands before it, with a Pavement of black and white Marble, inclosed with Iron Rails.

There are a great Number of Monuments in the Church, particularly one in the North Isle, for Seven Children of *Edward Maphesden*, who died of the

Small-pox, with a *Latin* Inscription, deploring that heavy Dispensation.

Several Benefactions are bestowed on the Poor of this Town, particularly Two Alms-houses in *Potters-street*. But the greatest Ornament of the Town is the School, built 39 Years ago, by Contribution of the Gentlemen of *Hertfordshire* and *Essex*, at the Request of Dr. *Thomas Tooke*, late Master, who also procured several Sums for completing it, from the young Gentlemen educated here. When this Gentleman engaged in it, it was at the lowest Ebb of Reputation; but he raised it to a great Degree of Fame, and considerably increased the Trade of the Town, by the beneficial Concourse that it brought thither. He revived the annual School-feast, and charged his own Estate with a yearly Present to the Preacher on that Occasion. He died *May 4. 1721.* after upwards of 30 Years successful and diligent Labours here. By his Interest and Care, the Gallery in the Church, for the Use of the School, was erected. He gave a Chalice of 20*l.* Value to the Church, and was a great Benefactor to the School-library; which is a very good one, and was first set on foot by the Reverend *Thomas Leigh*, B. D. who was Vicar of the Church *Anno 1680.*

The School stands in the High-street, with the West-front to the Church-yard, consisting of Three Rooms, which, with the Stair-case, make a square Building. The Grammar-school takes up half of it, all the Front to the Street; the other Two are the Library, and Writing-school. These stand upon Arches, under which are a Market and Shops, which are the Property of the Parish; and here the School was built, at the Desire of the Inhabitants, who got by it a Covering for their Market, and at the same time an Ornament to their Town.

Every Gentleman at leaving the School presents a Book to the Library.

Hadham Parva stands a little North of *Bishop-Stortford*, and is of chief Note for being the Burying-place of the *Capels*, Earls of *Essex*.

The Manor of *Rye*, in the Parish of *Stansted-Abbots*, is famous for the Plot, called thence *The Rye-house Plot*, said to be formed for assassinating King *Charles II.* in his Return from *Newmarket*; for which several Persons suffered, and, among the rest, the Tenant of the Place, *Rumball*, a Man of a daring and intrepid Spirit.

Honesdon, separated from *Essex* by the *Stort*, deserves to be mentioned for Three Reasons; first, for its noble Situation upon a gravelly rising Ground, overlooking the Meadows; 2dly, for being the Residence of the Children of King *Henry VIII.* in whose Hands it was then, on account of its good Air, and Vicinity to *London*; and 3dly, for the Seat of *Robert Chester*, Esq; built within these few Years, inclosed with a Park. It stands upon a beautiful Hill, overlooking the Meadows, the River *Stort*, and Part of *Essex*, from the back Front; from the other, it hath a Prospect over great Part of *Hertfordshire*, and is seen from *Chebbunt Common*, on one hand, as *St. Paul's* is from the other. -At the Entrance of the Avenue it hath a large Basin, thro' which runs a small Stream; and there is a graceful Plantation of Trees, with Variety of Slopes, adorned with Statues. The same Stream afterwards feeds a Canal.

We pursued our Way directly South, and came to *Sawbridgeworth*, or *Sabsworth*. Among several antient Monuments in the Church, is an handsome one erected to the Memory of General *Lumley*, Brother to the then Earl of *Scarborough*, with an Inscription, greatly to his Honour, as follows:

‘ Here

‘ Here lieth the Honourable HENRY LUMLEY, Esq; only Brother to *Thomas Earl of Scarborough*; who was in every Battle, and at every Siege, as Colonel, Lieutenant-General, or General of the Horse, with King *William*, or the Duke of *Marlborough*, in Twenty Campaigns, in *Ireland*, *Flanders*, and *Germany*; where he was honoured, esteemed, and beloved, by our own Army, by our Allies, and even by the Enemies, for his singular Politeness and Humanity, as well as for all his military Virtues and Capacity. He sat along in Parliament, always zealous for the Honour of the Crown, and for the Good of his Country; and knew no Party, but that of Truth, Justice, and Honour. He died Governor of the Isle of *Jersey*, the 18th of *October* 1722. in the 63d Year of his Age.’

The Manor-house of *Pishobury*, in *Sabsworth* Parish, deserves to be mentioned on account of its remarkable Strength (though built in *Queen Elizabeth's* Time), and lofty Rooms. It is situated on a clean Soil, has handsome Avenues to it, with the River *Stort* behind, which communicates with the Canals in the Gardens. It is in the Possession of the Family of *Gardener*.

We then crossed the Country directly West to *Ware*, situated 20 Miles from *London*, on the River *Lee*, in its Course from *Milford*. The Town stands low, upon a Level with the River. It is a Place of great Trade for all Sorts of Grain, but chiefly Malt, which is conveyed in great Quantities to *London*, by the River *Lee*, which is navigable from hence; and the Barges bring Coals, &c.

It consists of one principal Street a Mile long, and other back Streets and Lanes. At an Inn in this

Town is the famous great Bed, which is Twelve Feet square.

Ware, being 20 Miles from *London*, is the second Post-town from thence on the Northern Road. The next is *Royston*, 13 Miles farther. Several Alms-houses, and a Free-school, and other Charities, belong to this Town.

Thomas Byde, Esq; Lord of the Manor, has an House pleasantly situated in the Park here, to which is an Ascent of every Side; also a Vineyard newly planted. One late Improvement, besides many others, is a Cut from the *Rib*, which by that means turns that Stream thro' the Park on the South-side, which is a fine Nursery and Protection for Trouts.

In the North Part of the Town was situated the Priory, now in the Possession of the Family of *Hadfley*.

At *Blake's-ware*, the most Eastern Part of the Parish, is a Seat of *William Flummer*, Esq; with a Stream, called the *Ash*, on the East Front, which feeds a Canal and a Garden by the River-side. The chief Gardens are seen from the Western Front, which, being upon a Declivity, afford an handsome Prospect that Way.

A little South of *Ware* lies *Amwell*, a Village famous for giving Rise to the *New River*; which, proceeding in a direct Course by the Church, receives a Spring which flows with great Abundance. It is 20 Miles from *London*; but the Course of the River is computed at 36. It was begun by Sir *Hugh Middleton*; who by the Assistance of the City of *London*, and by Aid of an Act of Parliament, brought it to Perfection.

The yearly Profit of the River has, some Years ago, been computed at 30,000 *l.* and the Expence in supporting, and keeping it up, is said to amount to half the Profit. 'Twas divided originally into 72 Shares, one Moiety whereof belonged to private

private Persons, and the other to the Crown: for King *James I.* for the sake of his Palace at *Theobalds*, was a great Promoter of it. The Crown's Moiety is since come into private Hands; who however have no Part in the Management; for the Corporation consists of 29 of the Proprietors of the first 36 Shares.

This River, in fact, draws most of its Water from the *Lee*; which being the Property of the City of *London*, that Corporation opposed a Bill brought into Parliament, for giving farther Powers to the *New River* Company to benefit itself by the *Lee* River: but the Opposition availed not, and in the Session 1738-9. the Bill passed into a Law.

The Governors of the *New-River* Company agreed with the Proprietors of the Lands on the River *Lee*, for a Cut of Two cubic Feet of Water from the said River, at a certain Rate; and, after the Agreement, they told them they would double the Price for a Four-foot Cut; which the Proprietors agreed to, not considering the great Disproportions of the Two Cuts. And this Cut of the River *Lee* supplies the largest Share of the *New River* Water.

We kept along the great Road, through *Hoddeston* (which is a considerable Market-town, and noted also as a Thoroughfare), till we came to *Broxbourn*, which lies near it on the *New River*; a small, but pleasant Village, situated on a rising Ground, having pleasant Meadows down to the River *Lee*. On the Left-hand of the Village is *Broxbournbury*, the Seat of the Lord *Monson*. The House is large, and in the old *Gothic* Style, and situated in the Middle of the Park (which has been planted and beautified of late). There are also new Offices erected at a little Distance from the House, in a Quadrangle, on the same Plan with the King's *Mews* at *Charing-cross*. They are placed behind a large Plantation of Trees, so that

they do not appear until you are near upon them; yet are at a convenient Distance from the Mansion-house, which I was informed his Lordship also proposes to rebuild.

The Manor of *Theobalds* is in this Neighbourhood, where formerly was built a magnificent Seat by Lord Treasurer *Burleigh*, who gave it his younger Son, Sir *Robert Cecil*; and he exchanged it for that of *Hatfield*, at the Desire of *James I.* who made it his Sporting-seat; and here ended his Life. From this Place *Charles I.* set out to erect his Standard at *Nottingham*. King *Charles II.* made a Grant of it to *George Monck* Duke of *Albemarle*, and to his Male Issue; which failing in his Son *Christopher*, King *William* gave it to *William Bentinck* Earl of *Portland*, in whose Grandson, the present Duke, it still continues. In the late Civil Wars, the Palace was plundered and defaced; and is become a poor Village, from a Royal Residence. The great Park, which was inclosed within a Wall of 10 Miles Compass by King *James*, is now converted into Farms. The Place is however populous, and the *New River* runs just by, and sometimes through the Gardens of the Inhabitants. In this Neighbourhood *Richard Cromwell*, the abdicated Protector, passed the last Part of his Life, in a very private Manner.

Walham-cross is the next, and, as you enter *Middlesex* by the North Road, the last Place in *Hertfordshire*, standing just on the Edge of *Middlesex*. It is noted for, and takes its Name from, the Cross, built by King *Edward I.* in Honour of his beloved Queen *Eleanor*, whose Corpse, in its Way from *Lincolnshire* to *Westminster*, rested here; and a Cross was built at every Stage where it rested, and *Charing-cross* was the last. That Princess's Effigies placed round the Pillar, and the Arms of her Royal Consort, as well as her

own,

Hertf. GREAT BRITAIN. 203
own, viz. *England, Castile, Leon, and Poitou*, are
still remaining, tho' much defaced.

And thus much for the County of *Hertford*, with
which I conclude myself,

S I R,

Yours, &c.





LETTER II.

CONTAINING

A Description of Part of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, of the County of OXFORD, and Part of WILTS, and GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

S I R,



NOW proceed to give you an Account of my next Journey through Part of *Bucks*, into *Oxfordshire*, and shall touch upon some Parts of *Wiltshire*, of which I have not yet taken notice.

On the Right-hand, as we ride from *London* to *Uxbridge*, or to *Colebrook*, we see *Harrow*; the Church of which standing on the Summit of an Hill, and having a very high Spire, they tell us, King *Charles II.* ridiculing the warm Disputes among some critical Scripturalists of those Times, concerning the *Visible Church of Christ* upon Earth, used to say, This was it.

From *Uxbridge* we proceeded on the Road towards *Oxford*, and came to *Beaconsfield*, a small Town on the

the Road to *Oxford*, full of good Inns, and situated on a dry Hill, famous for the Residence of Mr. *Edmund Waller*, eminent for his poetical Talent.

Then we went on to *Wickham*, commonly called *High* or *Chipping Wycomb*, from *Coomb*, a *British* Word for Valley. This is a large Town, consisting of one great principal Street, branching out into divers small ones. It is full of good Houses and Inns, being a great Thoroughfare from *London* to *Oxford*. This Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

Not far from *Wickham* lies *Amer sham*, or *Agmon-desham*, a small Market-town, very antient, situated in the *Chiltern*, a Part of the County abounding with chalky Hills, covered with Woods and Groves of Beeches; and which sends Members to Parliament. A little beyond it you go through *Chesham*, a small Market-town; and likewise *Wendover*, a mean, dirty corporate Town; which sends Two Members to Parliament: as likewise does *Aylesbury*; which is the largest and best Town in the County.——It stands on an Hill; but the Country round it is low and dirty. It consists of several large Streets, and has an handsomely built Market-house, which stands in a kind of Quadrangle. It has also a Town-house, where the Assizes and Sessions, and other public Meetings of the County, are held. Provisions are here cheap and plentiful, which is owing to the rich Vale adjoining. It was a strong Town in the Beginning of the Saxons Time, and a Manor Royal in that of the Conqueror, who parcell'd it out under this odd Tenure, That the Tenants should find *Litter or Straw for the King's Bedchambers* Three times a Year, if he came that Way so often, and provide him Three Eels in Winter, and Three Green-geese in Summer; which would be but a mean Entertainment at Bed and Board for a King in these Days.

Many of the Poor here are employed in making Lace for Edgings; much inferior to those in *Flanders*:
but

but it is some Pleasure to us to observe, that the *English* are not the only Nation in the World, which admires foreign Manufactures above its own; since the *French*, who give Fashions to most Nations, buy and sell the finest Laces at *Paris* under the Name of *Dentelles d'Angleterre*, or *English* Laces. The *English* Ladies are even with them in many Instances; and particularly in refusing to buy very rich Silks, if they are not called *French*; though at the same time, it is well known, that the Looms of *Spital-fields* outdo any of those in *France*.

All round this Town is a large Track of the richest Land in *England*, extended for many Miles almost from *Tame*, on the Edge of *Oxfordshire*, to *Leighton* in *Bedfordshire*, and is called from this very Town, *The Vale of Aylesbury*. It is famous for fattening Cattle and Sheep, and 'tis frequent that they sell a Ram here for Breeding for Ten Pounds. Here it was, that, conversing with some Gentlemen who understood Country-Affairs (for all Gentlemen hereabouts are *Grafiers*, though all the *Grafiers* are not Gentlemen), they shewed me one remarkable inclosed Field of Pasture-ground, which was lett for 1400 *l. per Annum* to a *Grafiere*; and I knew the Tenant very well, whose Name was *Houghton*, who confirmed the Truth of it.

The late Duke of *Wharton* had a very fine Seat at *Winchenden*, and another much finer nearer *Windfor*, called *Ubourn*. But the Catastrophe that has befallen this once flourishing and truly noble Family is too melancholy, and too well known, to be animadverted upon here.

Near this Place lies *Chilton*, famous for giving Birth to that steady Patriot the Lord Chief-Justice *Crook*, who strenuously opposed the arbitrary Measures of levying Ship-money without the Authority of Parliament.

South-west of *Aylesbury*, lies the Market-town of *Tame*, situated on the Side of a Meadow, and almost encom-

encompassed with Rivulets. It consists of one long broad Street. The Church is large and fine, in Form of a Cross ; near which are the Ruins of a Priory. A Pot of *Roman* Coin was found here several Years since.

The *Thame* joins the other Branch, named also the *Thames*, at *Dorchester* in *Oxfordshire*.

In this Vale of *Aylesbury* flourished the great and antient Family of *Hampden*, for many Ages, in the Enjoyment of very large Estates, which, like that of *Wharton*, are now dissipated.

At the Confluence of the *Thame* and *Isis* stands *Dorchester*, a Town of Note among the antient *Romans*, and in the Year 634. was made a Bishop's See, till *Remigius*, in 1094 removed it to *Lincoln*. It has a very large Church, and a fine large Stone Bridge, of great Length and Antiquity.

East of *Aylesbury* lies *Ivingo*, a pleasant Market-town situated among Woods, in a Nook, or kind of Peninsula, which runs in between *Bedfordshire* and *Hertfordshire*.

We passed forward North-west through *Winslow*, a small Market-town, to *Buckingham*, the County-town, situated in a low, fruitful Ground, surrounded by the *Ouze* on all Sides but the North. It is governed by a Bailiff and Capital Burgessees. The Castle was seated in the Middle of the Town, upon a great Mount ; but hardly any thing even of its Ruins now remains. It divided the Town, in a manner, into two Parts ; the biggest to the North, where stands the Town-hall ; the lesser to the West, in which is a Church, formerly noted for the Shrine of *St. Rumbald*. The Buildings of the Town are old. It has Three Stone Bridges over the River ; and besides the well-built Church, there is a Chapel erected by Archbishop *Becket*, which is now used for a Free-school. Several Paper-mills are erected

on the *Ouze*. The County-gaol and Court are kept here, and, by virtue of a late Act of Parliament, the Assizes are held in it. The Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

It would have been inexcusable, when we were here, if we had not made a Visit to *Stow*, hard by; a Village made deservedly famous by the noble Gardens of the Right Hon. the late Lord Viscount *Cobham*. With which I was so charmed, that I cannot excuse myself from giving a very particular Description of them; and I have no doubt, that you will be as much pleased with it, however imperfectly I may give it; since your infirm State of Health permits you not to travel; and you have told me, that you have never seen them.

We enter on the South-side of the Garden, between Two square Pavilions of the *Doric* Order, the Work of Sir *John Vanbrugh*; and are struck with the surprising Grandeur and Variety of the Objects that present themselves to View, of which I shall give a brief Account in Order, as we pass them.

First, then, in the Middle of a large Octagon Piece of Water, stands an Obelisk of near 70 Feet, for a *Fet-d'-Eau* to cascade from the Top of it. At a good Distance we behold Two beautiful Rivers, which join and enter the Octagon in one Stream. Over one of the Rivers is a *Palladian* Bridge, which is an agreeable Object. A *Gothic* Building, 70 Feet high, presents itself on the Summit of a fine Hill; dedicated to *Liberty*.

Here we have likewise a View of the South Front of the House, up an Avenue of stately Trees; but have great Objections to the Narrowness of it: however, since every Tree may be deemed a sort of Obelisk to the Honour of the noble Planter, it makes a good Excuse for their standing; and the rather, as, if they were taken away, it would create an Evil, which could not be remedied in 40 Years.

As the *Gothic* Building is on the Right-hand, so on the

the Left appears an *Egyptian* Pyramid, dedicated to the Memory of Sir *John Vanbrugh*.

In short, here is such a Scene of Magnificence and Nature displayed, the Fields abounding with Cattle, the Trees and Water so delightfully intermingled, and such a charming Verdure, Symmetry, and Proportion, every-where presenting to the Eye, that the Judgment is agreeably puzzled, which singly to prefer of so many collected Beauties.

Leaving this Point, and on the Left-hand passing by Three Statues, we come to the Cold-bath, from whence we behold a natural Cascade falling down from the before-mentioned Octagon, in Three different Sheets of Water, into a large Lake. One of the Sheets glides through an Arch, or Piece of Ruin, which is mostly hid by a Clump of Ever-greens; but his Lordship, as we are told, designed to make a good deal of Amendment to it, though at present it has a very natural and agreeable Appearance.

From hence we proceed to the Hermitage, which is agreeably situated in a rising Wood, and by the Side of the Lake; and, passing through the Wood, we came to the Statues of *Cain* and *Abel*, fronting the *Veneris Hortus*, a very neat Structure, designed by Mr. *Kent*, the Inside of it painted by Mr. *Sleter*; and on the Frize is the following Motto, alluding to the Painting in the Cave:

*Nunc amet, qui nondum amavit;
Quique amavit, nunc amet.*

Which is,

*He who ne'er lov'd, a Lover grow;
And he who has—continue so.*

Here is likewise a *Sophia*. Each Way, from the Entrance of the Room, is an handsome Colonnade, leading to square Tabernacles or Pavilions. Here are
also

also Four venerable antique Bustoes, of *Vespasian*, *Nero*, *Cleopatra*, and *Faustina*.

Hence to the Head of the Lake we have a pleasant View of the Cascade; and from hence to *Gibbs's* Building, or the *Belvidere*, which is placed on the Top of the Mount, is a noble Prospect of the House, the Church, the Effigies of his present Majesty, and the late Queen; the Rotonda; the Castle; which a Farmer now inhabits, and was built for that Purpose; but, on account of its being seated on the Side of a fine rising Hill, makes a beautiful Appearance, as well from hence, as from many other Places.

In the Garden is likewise the Temple of *Friendship*, from which the Pavilion at the Entrance, the Cascade, the Lake, one of the Fields that is inclosed in the Garden, all together afford a Scene truly charming.

From hence to *Boycoat* Buildings, passing through a pleasant Wood with several agreeable Prospects into the Country, we see on our Right-hand a noble Terrace. One of the Buildings is a very good habitable House; the other stands on a square Bottom in the Garden; and in the Inside of it are Four Statues at full Length, in Niches; viz. *Cicero*, *Faustina*, *Marcus Aurelius*, and *Livia*. The Buildings are both finished with pyramidal Tops, by *Gibbs*. Betwixt them is a very handsome Gateway, which is the second Entrance to the House, from which leads up a noble Avenue planted with double Lines of thriving Trees.

From hence to the *Egyptian* Pyramid mentioned before, which is 60 Feet high, and about half-way up, is this Inscription in very large Characters:

Inter plurima hortorum horum ædificia a JOHANNÉ VANBRUGH, equite, designata, hanc pyramidem illius memoriæ sacram esse voluit COBHAM.

In English thus:

Among a very great Number of Structures in these Gardens, designed by Sir JOHN VANBRUGH, Knight,

Knight, COBHAM thought fit, that this Pyramid should be sacred to his Memory.

And in the Inside of the Building is the following Inscription :

*Lusisti satis, edisti satis, atque bibisti :
Tempus abire tibi est ; ne potum largius æquo
Rideat et pulset lasciva decentius ætas.*

Which may be thus translated :

*Enough you've sported, quaff'd the Bowl, and eat :
'Tis time that from the Banquet you retreat ;
Lest Youth, more fitly frolicsome, may join
To push you, reeling under Loads of Wine.*

From hence going along a sort of Fortification walk on our Left-hand, the Wood on the other Hand, we enter the Field, which is inclosed in a military Way, with a staked Fence. At the first Angle, on the Middle of the Gravel-walk, are the Statues of *Hercules* and *Antæus*. Hence we proceed to *St. Augustine's Cave*, which is a Building of Roots of Trees and Moss ; and in it a Straw Couch, with Three Inscriptions in Monkish Latin Verse. It is placed in a natural Wood, and from the Oddness of the Fabric, and the agreeable Simplicity which is round it, makes a very entertaining Variety.

Leaving this Place, we approach a Building of a very different Nature — the Temple of *Bacchus*, built of Brick, with Paintings in the Inside alluding to the Name. Here we have a fine distant Prospect toward *Aylesbury*, and *Wendover Hills*, &c. In the Garden we have in full View the Temple of *Venus* : and between the Two is an Obelisk, erected to the Memory of a Clergyman, with this Inscription :

To the Memory of ROBIN COUCHER.

We

We proceeded from hence to the *Saxon* Temple; which is a solemn Grove with the Seven *Saxon* Deities, presiding over the several Days of the Week, placed in Niches; and in the Middle of them stands an Altar, as for Sacrifice. All the Statues are extremely good, and this Scene agreeably strikes the Mind with Serenity and Composure.

Our Eye, after being confined in the Wood, breaking at once out of it, we are surpris'd with a fine open Country on the North: on the South, the Rotonda appears: on the West, the *Boycoat* Buildings: on the East, the Equestrian Statue of the late King, which stands in the Front of the House. These Objects present themselves from *Nelson's* Seat, which is an oblong square Recess in a Clump of Ever-greens. To the South-east is a View of the Mansion-house, which is an extraordinary good one; but, his Lordship annually adding to and improving it, one may safely say, that it would not be much inferior to the best House in *England*, if his Lordship's Design had been finished.

The Offices on the North-side are all inclosed within a most elegant Wall, with Niches, and grand Gateways into the Offices and Gardens. The House and Offices, if perfected, would be about 640 Feet in Length, fronting North and South. As *Nelson's* Seat lies to the North-west from the Portico of the House, there is on the North-east a new Bastion built to answer it; and some grand Walks by the Side of a fine Lawn, from which we see numerous Herds of Deer. A Semicircle of fine Timber appears at some Miles Distance, with an agreeable Country between.

The next Object of View is a *Corinthian* Column, on which is the Statue of his present Majesty, with this Inscription:

GEORGIO AVGVSTO.

Here we have a most delightful Prospect over the Country; and in the Garden several of the Buildings present

present themselves with great Pomp. The Lake, whose Bounds are beautifully concealed, adds much to the general Agreeableness of the Place.

Dido's Cave is the next Subject of our Attention: this is a Stone Building, in a Wood, and raised on a sort of Amphitheatre, with this Inscription:

*Speluncam Dido, dux et Trojanus, eandem
Deveniunt—*

In *English* thus:

*Repairing to the same dark Cave are seen
The Trojan Hero, and the Tyrian Queen.*

From hence we advance to the Rotonda, which is a neat airy Building by Sir *John Vanbrugh*. The Dome of it supported on Ten *Doric* Columns; and in the Centre, standing on a circular Pedestal, a *Venus à Medicis*. From this Place we have a View of Part of the Octagon; the Lake, the Fields, and several of the Buildings, presenting themselves alternately as we turn ourselves round.

As we go from hence to the late Queen's Statue, by the Side of a Canal, we are delighted with an Alteration of his Lordship's; *viz.* On each Side, the Ground is broken, and planted with Clumps of various Kinds of Trees, intermixt with Statues, which are promiscuously placed. Her late Majesty's Effigies is erected on Four *Ionic* Columns, which are placed on a large Pedestal, with this Inscription in golden Letters:

Honori, Laudi, Virtuti, Divæ CAROLINÆ.

That is,

*To the Honour, Praise, and Virtue, of the Divine
CAROLINE.*

It is situated on a neat Amphitheatre of Slopes, with pastoral Figures each Way from it. Nature and Art here, joining together, make an agreeable Contrast.

Next we are led into the Sleeping-palour, which is a square Building placed in a Wood with Six Walks centring in it. Within, are painted the *Cæsars* Heads with several Festons of Fruit, &c. On the Frize is this Inscription :

Cum omnia sint in incerto, fave tibi.

Which is,

Since all things are uncertain, indulge thyself.

Leaving this Place, and crossing the Avenue before mentioned, from the Pavilions we come to the Witch house, a square Building, the Inside of which is painted by my Lord's Gentleman, with several Devices alluding to the Name.

We arrive next at the Temple of *Antient Virtue*, Rotonda of the *Doric* Order, by Mr. *Kent*: and in Four Niches, standing at full Lengths, are the Four following Statues; viz.

I. EPAMINONDAS, with this Inscription over his Head:

*Cujus a virtute, prudentia, verecundia,
Thebanorum respublica
Libertatem simul et imperium,
Disciplinam bellicam, civilem, et domesticam,
Accepit;
Eoque amisso, perdidit.*

That is,

From whose Valour, Prudence, and Moderation the Republic of *Thebes* received both Liberty and Empire, its military, civil, and domestic Discipline; and, with him, lost them.

II. LY

II. LYCURGUS, with this:

*Qui summo cum consilio inventis legibus,
 Omnemque contra corruptelam munitis optime,
 Pater patriæ,
 Libertatem firmissimam,
 Et mores sanctissimos,
 Expulsa cum divitiis avaritia, luxuria, libidine,
 In multa secula
 Civibus suis instituit.*

Thus translated:

Who, having invented Laws with the greatest Wisdom, and most excellently fenced them against all Corruption, as a Father of his Country, instituted for his Countrymen the firmest Liberty, and the soundest Morality, which endured for many Ages, he having, together with Riches, banished Avarice, Luxury, and Lust.

III. SOCRATES,

*Qui corruptissima in civitate innocens,
 Bonorum hortator, unici cultor DEI,
 Ab inutili otio, et vanis disputationibus,
 Ad officia vitæ, et societatis commoda,
 Philosophiam advocavit,
 Hominum sapientissimus.*

That is,

Who, being innocent in a most corrupt State, an Encourager of the Good, a Worshiper of One only GOD, as the wisest of Men, reduced Philosophy from useless Indolence, and vain Disputations, to the Duties of Life, and the Advantages of Society.

IV. Ho-

IV. HOMERUS,

*Qui poetarum princeps, idem et maximus,
Virtutis præco, et immortalitatis largitor,
Divino carmine,
Ad pulcre audendum, et patiendum fortiter,
Omnibus notus gentibus, omnes incitat.*

Thus rendered :

Who, being the first of Poets, as he was the greatest, the Herald of Virtue, and Bestower of Immortality, known to all Nations, incites all, in a Divine Poem, honourably to dare, and resolutely to suffer.

Over one Door is this Inscription :

Charum esse civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, diligere, gloriosum est : metui vero, et in odio esse, invidiosum, detestabile, imbecillum, caducum.

Which is :

To be dear to our Country, to deserve well of the State, to be praised, honoured, and beloved, is glorious : but to be dreaded, and hated, is matter of Ill-will, detestable, weak, ruinous.

Over the other Door this :

Iustitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum sit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in patria maxima est. Ea vita via est in cælum, et in hunc cœtum eorum, qui jam vixerunt.

In English thus :

Maintain Justice, and thy relative Duty ; which, as it is great, when exercised toward our Parents and Kindred, so is greatest toward our Country..
That

That Life is the Way to Heaven, and to this Assembly of those, who have already lived.

From this Place we have no distant Prospect; but, notwithstanding that, it abounds with lasting Beauties: it is really placed in a sort of Paradise; and, things rising adequate to that Name, you see *Friendship* flourishing in immortal Youth; in the *Elysian Fields* are many great and virtuous Mens Names perpetuated, who have distinguished themselves in *this* World by answering the End of their Creation. Near this Place also is a good Emblem of those who have deviated from it, in the *Ruin*. Here are sweet purling Streams, resembling the melodious Sounds of Birds, &c.

We are now not far from the Parish-church, which is so closely surrounded with a Wood, as not to be seen. From hence we come to the Side of a River, where

*Unpolish'd Nature cannot boast a Part ;
For Chance too regular, too rude for Art.*

And by its winding Banks we are led up to a Grotto, decorated with Shells, Pebbles, and Minerals. Here is likewise a Shell-pavilion, the Dome of which is supported by Six wreathed Columns. The Inside of it hath several Marks performed from Shells, and divers other Embellishments. On the opposite Side is another of Pebbles.

Hence we proceed to the Three-arched Building, which is a pleasant Recess, by the Banks of the River; and in passing we see *Antient Virtue* peeping on the South-side of us. The Church we have in full View on the West. To the East is situated the *Chinese* House, a Building in the Pond, the Outside of it painted very ingeniously, in the *Chinese* Taste, by the celebrated Mr. Sleter. The Inside of it is *Indian Japan*.

The Shell Bridge leads us from hence into the *Elysian Fields*, the most charming Place that ever Eyes beheld. It may not be improper here to give the follow-
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ing Lines, which were left by an unknown Gentleman, on his Entrance into them :

To Lord COBHAM.

Charm'd with the Sight, my ravish'd Breast is fir'd
With Hints like those, which antient Bards inspir'd.
All the feign'd Tales, by Superstition told,
All the bright Train of fabled Nymphs of old,
Th' enthusiastic Muse believes, are true ;
Thinks the Spot sacred, and its Genius *YOU*.
Lost in wild Rapture, would she fain disclose,
How by degrees the pleasing Wonder rose ;
Industrious in a faithful Verse to trace
The various Beauties of the lovely Place ;
And, while she keeps the glowing Work in View,
Thro' ev'ry Maze your artful Hand pursue, &c.

We are now come to the Monuments of *British* Worthies ; the first of which is Mr. POPE. The Gentleman, if a Gentleman, who left the following Lines on this great Poet's Bust, best knows what he meant by them :

For LOVE some worship ; some for FEAR :
Ask'st thou, my Friend, how POPE came here ?

The next is Sir THOMAS GRESHAM, with this Inscription :

Who, by the honourable Profession of Merchant, having enriched himself, and his Country ; for carrying on the Commerce of the World, built the ROYAL EXCHANGE.

INIGO JONES,

Who, to adorn his Country, introduced and rivalled the *Greek* and *Roman* Architecture.

JOHN

JOHN MILTON,

Whose sublime and unbounded Genius equalled a Subject that carried him beyond the Limits of this World.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE,

Whose excellent Genius opened to him the whole Heart of Man, all the Stores of Nature; and gave him Power, beyond all other Writers, to move, astonish, and delight Mankind.

Sir ISAAC NEWTON,

Whom the GOD of Nature made to comprehend all his Works; and from simple Principles to discover the Laws never known, and to explain the Appearances never understood, of this stupendous Universe.

Sir FRANCIS BACON Lord VERULAM,

Who, by the Strength of a superior Genius, rejecting vain Speculation, and fallacious Theory, taught to pursue and improve Philosophy by the certain Method of Experiment.

In the Niche of a Pyramid is placed a *Mercury*, with these Words subscribed:

——CAMPOS DUCIT AD ELYSIOS.

That is,

——Leads to th' *Elysian* Fields.

And below this Figure is fixed a Square of black Marble, with the following Lines:

*Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi,
Quique pii vates, et Phœbo digna locuti,
Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,
Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.*

Thus translated :

Here are the Bands who for their Country bled ;
And Bards whose pure and sacred Verse is read :
Those who, by Arts invented, Life improv'd ;
And by their Merits made their Mem'ries lov'd.

King ALFRED,

The mildest, justest, most beneficent of Kings, who
drove out the *Danes*, secured the Seas, supported
Learning, established Juries, crushed Corruption,
guarded Liberty, and was the Founder of the *English*
Constitution.

EDWARD Prince of WALES,

The Terror of *Europe*, and Delight of *England* ; who
preserved unaltered, in the Height of Glory, his na-
tural Gentleness and Modesty.

Queen ELIZABETH,

Who confounded the Projects, and destroyed the De-
signs, of *Spain*, who threatened to oppress the Li-
berty of *Europe* ; took off the Yoke of Ecclesiastical
Tyranny ; restored Religion from the Corruptions of
Popery ; and by a wise, a moderate, and a popular
Government, gave Wealth, Health, Security, to
England.

King WILLIAM the Third,

Who by his Virtue and Constancy having saved his
Country from a foreign Master, by a bold and ge-
nerous Enterprize, preserved the Liberty and Re-
ligion of *Great Britain*.

Sir WALTER RALEGH,

A valiant Soldier, and an able Statesman ; who, en-
deavouring to rouse the Spirit of his Master, for the
Honour of his Country, against the Ambition of
Spain, fell a Sacrifice to that Court, whose Arms he
had vanquished, and whose Designs he had opposed.

Sir

Sir FRANCIS DRAKE,

Who, through many Perils, was the first of *Britons* that adventured to sail round the Globe, and carry into unknown Seas the Knowledge and Glory of the *English* Name.

JOHN HAMPDEN,

Who with great Spirit, and consummate Ability, began a noble Opposition to an arbitrary Court, in Defence of the Liberties of his Country; supported them in Parliament; and died for them in the Field.

Sir JOHN BARNARD,
With no Inscription.

Leaving this incomparably sweet Place with great Regret, as every one who sees it must, we came to a Monument, with this Inscription:

Signor FIDO,

An *Italian* of good Extraction, who came into *England*, not to bite us, like most of his Countrymen, but to gain an honourable Livelihood. He hunted not after Fame; yet acquired it; regardless of the Praise of his Friends, but most sensible of their Love. Though he lived among the Great, he neither learnt nor flattered any Vice. He was no Bigot, nor doubted he of any of the XXXIX. Articles: and if to follow Nature, and respect the Laws of Society, be Philosophy, he was a perfect Philosopher; a faithful Friend, and an agreeable Companion, a loving Husband, and distinguished by a numerous Offspring, all which he lived to see take good Courses; and in his Old-age retired to the House of a Clergyman in the Country, where he finished his earthly Race, and died an Honour and Example to the whole Species. Reader, this Stone is guiltless of Flattery; for he, to whom it was inscribed, was not a Man, but a GREY-HOUND.

Crossing the Field to the *Gothic* Building before-described, we have a boundless Prospect round the Building. From hence we descend a fine Hill; and on our Left-hand see a Plantation of Ever-greens; on our Right, the Well designed, and Rivers described, from the Pavilion. This Walk leads us down to a very handsome Bridge over one of the Rivers. The Roof, on the Side facing the Water, is supported by *Ionic* Columns; the Back-side of it by an *Alto-Relievo* of the Four Quarters of the World, bringing their Products to *Britannia*. Here are likewise painted by Mr. *Sleter*, Sir *Walter Raleigh*, with a Map of *Virginia* in his Hand; and Sir *William Penn*, holding a Book stiled the Laws of *Pensylvania*. Here are, besides, a great many modern and antique Bustoes of Marble.

We now visit the *Imperial* Closet, which is a Room very near the Form of a Cube; and in it are the Three following Figures, painted at full Length by Mr. *Sleter*:

IMP. TITUS CÆS. VESPASIAN.

With his Saying over his Head, *Diem perdidit*, I have lost a Day.

IMP. TRAJAN. CÆS.

With his Saying, *Pro me: si merear, in me*. For me: but if I deserve it, against me.

IMP. MARCUS AURELIUS CÆSAR ANTONINUS,

With his Saying, *Ita regas imperator, ut privatus regi velis*.—So govern when an Emperor, as, if a private Person, you would desire to be governed.

Passing a noble Iron Gate, at the End of a fine Terrace, of 1990 Feet in Length, and Breadth proportionable, which leads to the *Veneris Hortus*, we come to the Temple of *Friendship*, a lofty, square Building, of the *Doric* Order, with Three noble Porticoes on the Sides, which appear to the Garden. The Cave and Cieling are painted with History-pieces, by Mr. *Sleter*.

ter. At the Bottom of the Room are placed Ten Pedestals, for the Bustoes of his Lordship, and Nine of his select Friends. Those of his Royal Highness the late Prince of *Wales*, the Earl of *Chesterfield*, the late Lord *Cobham*, and Mr. *William Pitt*, were erected when I was there.

The Pebble-Alcove is a neat Recess, and very artfully embellished with Pebbles. His Lordship's Arms are performed with the same, and displayed in proper Colours.

Congreve's Monument is an Urn, which with great Art expresses the Genius of the Man; and at the Top of it is placed a Monkey, beholding himself in a Mirror, and under him this Writing:

*Vitæ imitatio,
Consuetudinis speculum,
Comœdia.*

That is,
Comedy is the Imitation of Life, and the Glass of
Fashion.

The Poet's Effigies, lying in a careless Posture, has the following Inscription:

*Ingenio
Acri, faceto, expolito,
Moribusque
Urbanis, candidis, facillimis,
GULIELMI CONGREVE,
Hoc
Qualecunque desiderii sui
Solamen simul et
Monumentum
Posuit COBHAM
M.DCCC.XXXVI.*

Thus translated.

In the Year 1736. COBHAM erected this poor Consolation for, as well as Monument of, his Loss of the piercing, elegant, polished Wit, and civilized, candid, most unaffected Manners, of WILLIAM CONGREVE.

We are now very near the Pavilions; and in going to them, walk by the Side of the River and Octagon, passing, on our Left-hand, Three Satyrs, and a dancing Venus.

I have now gone round, and given you a faint Description of an unparalleled Chain of artificial and natural Beauty; and, to make use of Mr. Pope's Lines,

*Here Order in Variety you see,
Where all things differ, yet where all agree.*

His Lordship's Judgment and refined Taste are not less conspicuous in his Woods and Parks.

And thus much for these famous Gardens at Stow.

Going still farther Northward from Buckingham, we come to the following Towns:

Stony Stratford is remarkable for standing on the Roman Causeway, called *Watling-street*. It is an antient and well-known Thoroughfare-town, in the *Chester Road* from *London*. It is large, and well-built of Stone, has Two Churches in it, and a Cross erected by *Edward I.* to the Honour of his Queen *Eleanor*, and has a good Stone Bridge over the River. The principal Manufacture, as well in the Neighbourhood as in the Town, is Bone-lace.

This Town was destroyed by Fire in the Month of *May* 1743. which began in an House near the lower Part of the lower Town, about Ten of the Clock in the Morning, at which time the Wind blew very strong at East; and most of the Houses being thatched, in one Hour all that Side of the lower Town was destroyed, and Part of the opposite Side, as also the Church

Church: but the most remarkable thing was, that this Fire was communicated from thence to the upper Town, cross the River, and over a large Extent of Meadow, which is generally supposed to have been done by a Picture, which was blown (being on Fire) from the lower Town, and falling upon a thatched House in the upper, the Fire soon spread, and intirely destroyed the whole Town.

Newport-Pagnell is a large, well-built, populous Town, seated on the River *Ouze*, over which it has Two large Stone Bridges. It carries on a great Trade in Bone-lace, and the same Manufacture employs also the neighbouring Villages.

Oulney is a pretty good Town, where also is carried on a considerable Manufacture of Bone-lace. It lies on the Extremity of the County.

We then fell down, back again, to *Buckingham*; and following the great Road North-west, we came to *Brackley* in *Northamptonshire*, situate on the River *Ouze*, an antient large corporate Town, in which are Two Parish-Churches. It had formerly a College, but it is now used for a Free-school. It is governed by a Mayor and Aldermen; and the Market was once the Staple for Wool, in that County. This Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

We next came to *Banbury* in *Oxfordshire*, on the River *Charwell*. It is a large Market-town, under the Government of a Mayor and Aldermen. It has a considerable Trade, especially in Cheese, as all the Country round it is a rich feeding Meadow-ground. Here the famous *Make-king*, Earl of *Warwick*, surprised the Earl of *Pembroke*, and his Brother, of the Party of *Edward IV.* and beheaded them. This Place returns One Member to Parliament.

On the Borders of this County Westward from this Town, in *Warwickshire*, was the famous Battle of *Edge-hill*, fought between the Forces of King *Charles I.* and those of the Parliament; where, though the Victory was dubious, yet the Advantage, in the Event, inclined to the King's Side; for he thereupon took Lord *Say's* House at *Broughton*, and *Banbury* Castle, in which were 800 Foot, and a Troop of Horse.

Edge-hill lies at the West-end of the Vale of *Red-horse*, and gives a most extensive Prospect. It is steep to the North, and on the Top, at *Warmington*, is a strong large Entrenchment, said to be *Danish*, but looks more like *British*. On the Descent of the Hill, between *Radway* and *Keynton*, was fought the afore-mentioned Battle; here also they shew where the Slain were buried, and have a Tradition, that King *John* had a Palace, and resided, at *Keynton*.

There was likewise, at *Cropredy-Bridge*, an Encounter between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians under *Waller's* Command.

West of *Edge-hill* stands *Shipton*, a little Town in *Gloucestershire*, which has a very large Market.

We rode Southward to *Deddington* in *Oxfordshire*, a large Town, but a very small Market. It is governed by a Bailiff, and formerly returned Members to Parliament.

We turned a little East, and came to *Bicester*, a straggling, indifferent Town; but remarkable for having had once a famous City in its Neighbourhood, called *Aldchester*, long since passed over by the Plough; and where many *Roman* Coins, Stones, and other Antiquities, are found; which was undoubtedly the *Maima* of *Ravennas*. *Bicester* is famous for excellent Malt-liquor, and has had formerly a Religious House.

Isip lying directly in our Way to *Oxford*, we passed through it. It is remarkable for the Birth of *Ed-*

ward

ward the Confessor ; and that Dr. South, as well as other eminent Divines, were Ministers here. There are some Remains of an antient Palace still left.

From hence I came to *Oxford*, famous for several things, but chiefly for its being the most flourishing and considerable University in the World.

There has been a long Contest between the Two *English* Universities, about the Priority of their Foundations, which perhaps will never be decided, and so I pass it over.

It is out of Question, that, in the Largeness of the Place, the Beauty of Situation, the Number of Inhabitants, and of Scholars, *Oxford* has the Advantage. In short, *Oxford* has several things as an University, which *Cambridge* has not ; and *Cambridge* has several things in it, which cannot be found in *Oxford*. For Example,

The Theatre, the Museum or Chamber of Rarities, the *Bodleian* Library, the Number of Colleges, and the Magnificence of their Buildings, are on the Side of *Oxford* : yet *King's-College* Chapel and College are in favour of *Cambridge*, being the finest Structures of the kind that can be seen ; and the new Buildings erected lately there make that whole University still more considerable in this way.

Oxford is a noble populous City, University, and Bishoprick, so richly possessed of all that can contribute to make the Residence of the Scholars easy and comfortable, that no Spot of Ground in *England* goes beyond it. It is situated in a delightful Plain, on the Bank of a fine navigable River, in a plentiful Country, and at an easy Distance from *London*.

Cambridge, on the contrary, is a mean Town, not dignified with the Name of a City, or Episcopal See, seated among marshy Grounds ; and tho' it sends Two Members to Parliament as a Borough, and Two as an University, yet would be intirely neglected, from the Badness of the Situation, and the Indolence of its Inhabitants, were it not for the Lustre it receives from the Univer-

fity, and the many learned Men it has produced to the Honour of the Nation, at home and abroad.

I shall present you, Sir, with a List of the Colleges and Halls in the University of *Oxford*, together with a brief History of them; but must observe, that as it would exceed my Limits to give an Account of the particular Benefactions by which their Revenues and Buildings are so splendidly augmented, I shall only mention such of those Benefactions as have been conferred within so few Years back, that they are not likely to be found in other Writers.

Of the Colleges and Halls in OXFORD.

I. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

IS situate near the East Gate of the City. 'Tis so very antient, that we are left in the dark, as to the Time of its Foundation. That it was in being before the Year 721. is certain; but how much sooner, is not evident. King *Alfred* could not be so properly called the Founder of this University, as the Restorer, after the *Danish* Devastations. In the Year 1332. this College was recovered into a State of Liberty and Independency, by a Sum of Money, which *William* of *Durham* had left for the Maintenance of a Society of Students of *Oxford*, from whom it was some time called *Durham-hall*; and by other Benefactions it increased to what it now is. It has a Master, Twelve Fellows, Seventeen Scholars, Two Exhibitioners, &c.

Before the very noble Benefaction of Dr. *Radcliffe*, it had one large, beautiful Quadrangle, or square Court; the South-side of which is divided into an handsome Hall and Chapel. In a Niche before the said Quadrangle is a Statue of the late Queen *Anne*; and in a Niche on the Inside of the new Quadrangle, since built, is that of Dr. *Radcliffe*; but not extraordinary either of them. The Additions to this

this College will be mentioned in the Abstract we shall by-and-by give of Dr. *Radcliffe's* Will.

The Visitors are the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors.

2. BALIOL-COLLEGE

Stands in the North Part of the Town, in the Suburbs. It was founded by *John Baliol*, Father to the King of *Scots* of that Name, and *Devorguilla* his Wife. The former began it about the Year 1262. the latter, after her Husband's Death, completed it, and gave it a Body of Statutes, which was afterwards enlarged by *Philip Somerville*, a great Benefactor to this College; but that Body was afterwards laid aside, and a more advantageous one substituted in its room, Ann. 1507. by the then Bishops of *Winchester* and *Carlisle*. This College has a Master, Twelve Fellows, Thirteen Scholars, and Eighteen Exhibitioners, including Four founded by *John Warner* Bishop of *Rocheſter*, for *Scotſmen*.

It has One large, antient Quadrangle, on the North-side of which is the Chapel, and the Library, furnished with a very noble Collection of Books. Sir *Thomas Wendy* gave his Study to it, a few Years ago, valued at 1500 l.

The Visitor is chosen by the College.

3. MERTON-COLLEGE,

Situate on the South-side of the City, was founded by *Walter* of *Merton*, Bishop of *Rocheſter*, Lord High Chancellor of *England*. The Society was first planted at *Malvern* in *Surry*, in 1264. and he transferred it to *Oxford*, Anno 1267. The Founder framed his Statutes so admirably, that they were proposed as a Pattern to the Founder of *Peter-house*, *Cambridge*, by King *Edward I.* This College has a Warden, Twenty-four Fellows, Fourteen Portionists, or Post-masters, and Two Clerks.

The Chapel is the Parish-Church of *St. John Baptist*; it is a splendid old Building. The inner large Court or Quadrangle of the College is very beautiful; it has a very well furnished Library, and a fine Garden.

The Visitor is the Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

4. EXETER-COLLEGE

Is situate on the West-side of the Schools, in the North Part of the Town. It was founded *Anno* 1316. by *Walter Stapledon* Bishop of *Exeter*, Privy-Counsellor to *Edward II.* and Lord Treasurer of *England*, and named *Stapledon-Inn*; and called *Exeter-College* afterwards, by *Edmund Stafford* Bishop of *Exeter*, who was a Benefactor to it. It has a Rector, Twenty-three Fellows, one Bible-Clerk, and Three Exhibitioners.

It is one large Quadrangle, now made regular and uniform by the new Buildings, to which the most Reverend Dr. *Narcissus Marsh* Archbishop of *Armagh*, formerly a Fellow of it, contributed 1400*l.* It has a very noble Front, over the Gate of which is a splendid Tower.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Exeter*.

5. ORIEL-COLLEGE,

Situate on the South-side of the Town, was at first called *St. Mary's-College*, and *King's-College*, and was founded *Anno* 1324. by *Adam le Brome*, Almoner to King *Edward II.* His Son *Edward III.* inlarging the Revenue of it with a rich Messuage, called *Le Oriole*, it took the Name of *Oriel-College*. The same Prince annexed to it for a Retiring-place, in case of Pestilence, &c. *St. Bartholomew's Hospital* near *Oxford*. It has a Provost, Eighteen Fellows, and Twelve Exhibitioners. It consists of One handsome regular Quadrangle.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Lincoln*.

6. QUEEN'S-COLLEGE

Is situate near the Parish-Church of *St. Peter's in the East*. It was founded *Anno* 1340. by *Robert Eglesfield*, Chaplain or Confessor to *Philippa*, Consort of King *Edward III.* in Honour of whom he called it *Queen's-College*, recommending it to her Royal Patronage and Protection, and to that of all future Queens of *England*. There were to be a Provost and Twelve Fellows, out of Regard to the Number of Christ and his Apostles, and Seventy Scholars, in Allusion to the Number of the Seventy Disciples; but he died before his Design

was

was completed. The Society consists of a Provost, Sixteen Fellows, Sixteen Scholars, Eight Chaplains, Nine Taberders, and Twenty Exhibitioners.

Sir *Joseph Williamson* was a special Benefactor to this College, of late Times, as *Edward III.* his Queen, Archbishop *Grindall*, and King *Charles I.* were before; as also was its late Provost, Dr. *William Lancaster*, in whose Time were begun those noble and extensive Buildings, which are so justly admired; one Side whereof, in which are the Library, the Provost's, and other spacious and stately Lodgings, is 327 Feet long, supported by a Piazza, and adorned with Statues, &c. The Library is long and lofty, very magnificent without, and well-furnished within. The new Chapel and Hall, lately finished, answer the other Side of the College.

On the 24th of *May 1733.* *Arthur Onslow*, Esq; Speaker of the House of Commons, and Chancellor to her late Majesty Queen *Caroline*, transmitted to the Provost 1000*l.* from her Majesty, as Queen Consort, and Patroness thereof, towards finishing the new Buildings; and her Majesty's Statue is erected there under a kind of Temple, supported by Pillars; but not to the Advantage which the Royal Munificence, and the good Intentions of the College, deserved.

And in the Year 1739. we were assured, that Mr. *Michael of Richmond* has left an Estate of 700*l.* per Annum to this College, the Income whereof is to finish the East End of the Buildings of the said College on the Plan laid down for that Purpose, and after this to commence a Foundation of Eight Fellows, at 50*l.* per Annum each, and as many Scholars, at 25*l.* per Annum each, to be elected from the whole University; those on the present Foundation to be excluded. The Fellowships to be vacated after Ten Years Enjoyment; as they are at *Wadham*, *Worcester*, and *Pembroke* Colleges, after Twenty Years.

The Visitor of this College is the Archbishop of *York*.

7. NEW-COLLEGE,

Situate on the North-east Part of the Town, was at first called, *The College of the Blessed Virgin Mary*: it was founded *Anno* 1386. by *William* of *Wickham*, Bishop of *Winchester*, and Lord High Chancellor, who also founded the College at *Winchester*. It has a Warden, Seventy Fellows, Ten Chaplains, Three Clerks, Sixteen Choristers, &c.

Great Additions have been made to the Beauty and Buildings of this College: besides a third Story that was raised upon the Two original ones of the great Court, at the Society's Expence, *Anno* 1674. they have enlarged their Buildings towards the Garden, with Two stately and uniform Wings, extending to the Garden; their Chapel is most magnificent, solemn, and splendid, with an Organ and Choir. They have a very lofty Tower, with a Ring of fine Bells; and under that and the West-end of the Chapel, a very handsome square Cloister, and a little Garden within it. Their Library is well furnished with Books and Manuscripts, and their great Garden laid out in Form. The Front of it is a Range of Iron Palisadoes, and a Gate of exquisite Work; and at the South-end they have a Bowling-green. Their Hall, which is at the End of the Chapel, answers to the Magnificence of the rest.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Winchester*.

8. LINCOLN-COLLEGE,

Situate in the Middle of the City, was founded in the Year 1427. by *Richard Fleming*, Bishop of *Lincoln*; who dying before it was completed, *Thomas de Rotherham*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, afterwards Lord High Chancellor, and Archbishop of *York*, finished it *Anno* 1475. It has a Rector, Twelve Fellows, Nine Scholars, Twenty Exhibitioners, Two Chaplains, &c.

It has Two small antient Quadrangles, not very regular.

gular. The Chapel is beautiful, and built by Archbishop *Williams*; the Windows are very curiously painted.

The Lord *Crew*, Bishop of *Durham*, ordered to take place from *Michaelmas* 1717. the following Benefactions to this College; *viz.* 1. Twenty Pounds a Year to the Headship, and 10 *l.* a Year to each of the Twelve Fellowships for ever. 2. Ten Pounds *per Annum* for ever to the Curates of Four Churches belonging to this College. 3. He made up the Bible-clerk's Office, and Eight Scholarships, which were before very mean, 10 *l. per Ann.* each for ever. And, 4. Settled, to commence from *Lady-day* 1718. 20 *l. per Ann.* each on Twelve Exhibitioners for ever.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Lincoln*.

9. ALL-SOULS-COLLEGE.

Its Front faces the High-street. It was founded by *Henry Chicheley*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, for offering up Prayers for all those who fell in the Wars of *Henry V.* in *France*. It has a Warden, Forty Fellows, Two Chaplains, Nine Scholars, Three Clerks, Six Choristers, &c.

Before the new Buildings, it had Two Courts, the larger a regular and stately Edifice. The Chapel was very august and solemn: but the College now appears with a new Face.

Colonel *Christopher Codrington*, Governor of the *Leeward Islands*, bequeathed to this College 10,000 *l.* 5000 *l.* of which he ordered to be laid out in building a Library, and the other 4000 *l.* in Books for it, and bequeathed his own Library to it besides. This Library is 200 Feet long within the Walls, and 32 Feet and an half broad; it has Eleven large Windows to the South, and a Window of Seventeen Feet wide at the East-end, and one at the West of the same Dimensions. It is a fine *Gothic* structure, built so in Conformity to the Chapel. Against the Entrance, in a Niche, is the Statue of the Benefactor, with a suitable Inscription to his Honour; which he forbade

bid to be mentioned on his Monument; on which is only cut the Word *Codrington*.

Besides what will be mentioned by-and-by of the Benefactions of Dr. *George Clarke*, in the Abstract we shall give of his Will, that Gentleman in his Lifetime adorned the Chapel of this College with a magnificent Marble Altar-piece, rich Furniture for the Communion-table of crimson Velvet, trimmed with Gold lace and Fringe, Books, Candlesticks, &c.

Henry Portman, Esq; also placed at the East-end; cloathed Resurrection-piece, painted by Sir *James Thornhill*. And the Hon. *Doddington Greville*, Esq; was at the Expence of painting finely the Cieling-piece. And there are other additional Ornaments, which render it worthy of the Attention of the Curious.

A very handsome Monument was erected *Anno* 1739. in the Chapel of this College, with an Inscription upon it, in Honour of their worthy Benefactor Dr. *Clarke* afore-mentioned.

The Visitor is the Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

IO. MAGDALEN-COLLEGE,

Situate without the East-gate of the Town, was founded *Anno* 1458. by *William Patten*, alias *Wainfleet*, Bishop of *Winchester*, and Lord High Chancellor. It has a President, Forty Fellows, a Schoolmaster, Thirty Scholars called *Demies*, an Usher, Three public Readers, Four Chaplains, Eight Clerks, Sixteen Choristers, an Organist, &c.

When the new Buildings to this College, which they are now carrying on, are finished, and which will form a stately Quadrangle, it will be one of the finest in the University; and they have made a great Progress in them.

It had before Two Quadrangles, the innermost of which is regular, and consists of a Library and Lodgings, supported by a spacious Cloister. The Chapel and the great Tower, as also the little one in the West-end of the inner Quadrangle, and the Hall, and

very lofty and magnificent. They have an exceeding well-furnished Library, to which Colonel *Codrington* lately gave 10,000 *l.* and a good Collection of Books. Its *Water-walks*, as they are called, make this College highly delightful; they are an almost triangular Gravel-walk, fenced with Hedges and Trees on both Sides, surrounded on every Part with a running Stream, and inclosing a large Meadow. Their Grove is also a fine spacious Extent of Ground, planted with stately Vistas of Trees, one Part of which is laid out in an handsome Bowling-green.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Winchester*.

II. BRAZEN-NOSE-COLLEGE

Is situate in the Middle of the Town, where stood an Hall of the same Name, and a monstrous Nose. It was founded by *William Smyth*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, Counsellor to Prince *Arthur*; and by Sir *Richard Sutton*, Kt. It was begun in 1509. and finished 1522. It has a Principal, Twenty Fellows, Thirty Scholars, Four Exhibitioners, &c.

It consists of Two very handsome Quadrangles; in the lesser of which are the Chapel and Library, and under them a wide and pleasant Cloister, very compactly and elegantly built.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Lincoln*.

12. CORPUS-CHRISTI-COLLEGE

Stands on the South-side of the Town. It was founded Anno 1516. by *Richard Fox*, Bishop of *Winchester*, Lord Privy-Seal to the Kings *Henry VII.* and *VIII.* *Hugh Oldham*, Bishop of *Exeter*, gave 6000 Marks towards the Building, besides Lands towards endowing it. It has a President, Twenty Fellows, Twenty Scholars, Two Chaplains, and Four Exhibitioners.

The Structure of the first Court is antient, but within-side very regular and handsome. The Library contains a noble Treasure of Books. Their Hall was beautified a few Years ago, and their Gardens, though small, are kept very neat. But the most splendid Part of this College is the stately Row of Lodgings

ings erected a few Years ago by their late President Dr. *Thomas Turner*, who moreover gave them his numerous and valuable Collection of Books.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Winchester*.

13. CHRIST-CHURCH.

This College takes up a vast Extent of Ground and stands on the South-side of the City. It was begun to be founded *Anno 1515.* by Cardinal *Wolsey* but on his Disgrace coming into the King's Hands and thence called *King's-College*, his Majesty, that he might not seem to found any Part of his Fame on another's Bottom, called it *Christ-Church*, and made it an Episcopal See, *Anno 1541.* Afterwards, *Anno 1543.* he joined to it *Canterbury-College*, now called *Canterbury-Quadrangle*, and *Peckwater-Inn*, now called *Peckwater-Court*. However, the Buildings lay very incomplete for almost an hundred Years after, when Dr. *Bryan Duppa*, and Dr. *Samuel Fell*, Deans of this House, and afterwards Dr. *John Fell*, Bishop of *Oxford* Son of the latter, at different times, by the Help of many generous Benefactors, brought the Buildings to surprising Perfection.

This Foundation is numerous and magnificent, for Dean, Eight Canons, 101 Students, Eight Chaplains Eight Singing-men, Eight Choristers, and a Teacher of Music for them, an Organist, a Schoolmaster and Usher, Forty Grammar-scholars, a Virger, &c. There is also belonging to it an Hospital in *St. Alat's* Parish which has 24 Poor. In the stately Tower, in the Front of the Gate, hangs the great Bell, called *Tom*; which was removed thither out of the Steeple of the Cathedral, by Bishop *Fell*. It is Seven Feet and an Inch Diameter, and Five Feet Nine Inches high; and weighs near 17,000 Pounds Weight. This Bell is tolled every Night 101 Strokes, agreeable to the Number of Students in the College, to give Warning for shutting up the Gates in the Colleges and Halls in the University.

The Buildings of this College are very large, august, and splendid. The great Quadrangle has a wide and handsome Terrace round it, and a Fountain in the Middle. *Peckwater-Quadrangle* is finely rebuilt. *Canterbury* and the Chaplains Quadrangles are also convenient Edifices. The Cathedral is lofty, but no elegant Structure; the Hall and Library high and spacious; and the latter contains a noble Collection of Books, to which *Dr. Aldrich*, late Dean, made a fine Addition. It is impossible, in my narrow Limits, to do Justice to this double College, which is an University of itself. I shall only add, that Archbishop *Wake*, lately deceased, left to it his Library, and a large Cabinet of Medals, computed to be worth between 8 and 10,000 *l.* besides other Bequests; and that the College-walks are become the general Rendezvous on *Sunday* Evenings, since the shutting up the Gardens of *St. John Baptist's* College, whither they used to go before 1748.

The Visitor is the King.

14. TRINITY-COLLEGE

Stands in the North Suburbs of the Town, where once stood *Durham-College*, founded *Anno* 1350. by *Thomas Hatfield* Bishop of *Durham*. At the Dissolution of Abbeys, it running the common Fate, Sir *Thomas Pope*, of *Hertfordshire*, purchased it of those who had a Grant of it from King *Edward VI.* and obtained a Royal Licence to turn it into a College; which accordingly he did *Anno* 1550. by this Name. It has a President, Twelve Fellows, Twelve Scholars, &c.

It has Two Quadrangles. In the first are the Chapel, the Hall, and the Library. The Chapel was rebuilt *Anno* 1693. and the Work of it, both within and without, is wonderfully elegant. The Altar-piece is of Cedar inlaid: the Rails and Screen of Cedar, and all adorned with exquisite Carving. The Roof is enriched with Fretwork, and an admirable Piece of Painting, representing our Saviour's Ascension. The Pavement, from the Screen to the Altar, is of a black and white Marble.

Marble. The Gardens on the East-side of the College are large, and well laid out, containing about Three Acres of Ground: they are divided into Three Parts: the first, which we enter from the grand Quadrangle, consists of fine Gravel-walks and Grass-plots, adorned with Ever-greens; and the Walls intirely covered with them, as those in other College-gardens generally are. Adjoining to this, on the South, is another Garden, with shady Walks of *Dutch* Elms; and, beyond, a Wilderness, adorned with Fountains, close Arbours, round Stone-tables, and other Embellishments. At the Entrance and End of the great Walk that goes through them, are very noble Iron-gates, which leave a Prospect open to the whole East-side of the College.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Winchester*.

15. ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S-COLLEGE

Is situated in the North Suburbs. It was founded *Ann* 1555. by Sir *Thomas White*, Lord Mayor of *London*, in the Place where stood, before the Dissolution, *St. Bernard's-College*, built by Archbishop *Chicheley*. It has at present a President, Thirty-nine Fellows, and Eleven Scholars, an Organist, and Singing-men, Four Choristers, &c.

It has Two spacious and uniform Quadrangles. The inner Court was built by Archbishop *Laud*, and is very elegant. The East and West-sides of it are supported by noble Piazzas, in the Middle of which are Two Portals finely fronted with Pillars and Carving. In one of these Fronts stands a curious Brazen Statue of King *Charles I.* and in the other of his Queen. Their Chapel, which has an Organ and Choir in it, is very handsome. The Library takes up the East and South-sides of the new Quadrangle, and is well stored with Books, Manuscripts, and valuable Curiosities. The Hall is neat, and adorned with good Pictures.

The Gardens belonging to this College also are large, and well laid out: in the first, the Walks are planted with *Dutch* Elms, and the Walls covered with Ever-greens: the inward Garden has every thing almost that

can render such a Place agreeable; as a Terrace, a Mount, Wilderness, and well-contrived Arbours; but, notwithstanding this is much more admired by Strangers than the other, the outer Garden is become the general Rendezvous of Gentlemen and Ladies every *Sunday* Evening in Summer. Here they used to have an Opportunity of seeing the whole University together almost; but they are now deprived of that Privilege, and *Christ-Church* Walks are resorted to, as we observed, p. 237.

Dr. *Sherard*, formerly Consul at *Smyrna*, who died *August* 12. 1728. left his Library and Curiosities, which are very valuable, to this College, besides another considerable Legacy.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Winchester*.

16. JESUS-COLLEGE

Is situate in *St. Michael's* Parish. It was begun, *Anno* 1571. by *Hugh Price*, Professor of Common-law in this University, Prebendary of *Rochester*, &c. who designed it particularly for the Benefit of his Countrymen of *Wales*; but the Endowment that Gentleman made of it, sinking into nothing, *Queen Elizabeth*, *Anno* 1589. gave another Charter at the Society's Request; and having stiled herself their Foundress in the first, it is frequently attributed to her. It has met with so many generous Contributors, that it is in a flourishing State, and has a Principal, Nineteen Fellows, Eighteen Scholars, Twenty-one Exhibitioners, &c.

It has Two large handsome Quadrangles, the innermost very regular and uniform.

The Visitor is the Earl of *Pembroke*.

17. WADHAM-COLLEGE

Stands in the North Skirts of the Town. Its Founders were *Nicolas Wadham*, of *Merefield* in *Somersetshire*, Esq; and *Dorothy* his Wife, Daughter of Sir *William Petre*, Knight, Privy-counsellor to *Queen Elizabeth*. He formed the Design, and died; and she, in Compliance with his Death-bed Request, completed it. It was begun *Anno* 1609. and finished 1613. It has a Warden,

Warden, Fifteen Fellows, Fifteen Scholars, Two Chaplains, Two Clerks, &c.

This College has one large, regular, beautiful Quadrangle. The Chapel stands out behind the Quadrangle to the East, regularly answering to the Library; and its Windows are finely painted. They have a large Garden, handsomely laid out.

The Visitor is the Bishop of *Bath and Wells*.

18. PEMBROKE-COLLEGE

Is situate on the South-side of the Town. It was formerly an Hall, and called *Broadgate-hall*. It was made a College by the Munificence of *Thomas Tesdall Esq*; and *Richard Wightwicke*, B. D. with the Licence of King *James I.* Anno 1624. The Foundation of the first consisted of Seven Fellows, and Six Scholars; the other of Three Fellows, and Four Scholars. The present Members are a Master, Thirteen Fellows, Twenty-three Scholars, &c. It had its Name from the Earl of *Pembroke*, then Chancellor.

It has one handsome Quadrangle, the Front of which is a regular, neat Piece of Building. A pleasant Garden also belongs to it.

The Visitor is the Chancellor of the University.

19. WORCESTER-COLLEGE.

This College was lately called *Gloucester-hall*: after the Dissolution, Sir *Thomas White*, Lord Mayor of *London*, built it, for the Purpose of Education, and called it *St. John Baptist-hall*, tho' still it retained the Name of *Gloucester-hall*, till it acquired a collegiate Endowment by the noble Munificence of Sir *Thomas Cooksey*, of *Asteley* in *Worcestershire*.

It had, before the late Dr. *George Clarke's* Will, by his Favour, of which we shall give an Abstract below, and-by, a Provost, Six Fellows, Six Scholars, &c.

The Buildings lately added, now carrying on, and the fine Legacies left to it by the said Gentleman, will give this College, which had been in no very good Condition for some time, a very advantageous Figure.

in the University; and it already makes a very stately and splendid Appearance, and will be enabled to make a still better; for on the 2d of *October* 1740. died at her Seat near *Gloucester*, Mrs. *Eaton*, One of the Three Coheiresses of Dr. *Brom Eaton*, formerly Principal of this College, when *Gloucester-hall*. This Lady has left a very great Estate, partly to her Relations, and partly to Acts of Munificence, such as the Foundation of Six Fellowships in *Worcester-College*, for the Support of which, and the erecting a Pile of Building for them, an Estate of 700 *l. per Annum* is bequeathed. The Corpse of this Lady was honoured by the Attendance of the Vice-chancellor, and all the Heads of Houses in the University.

20. HERTFORD-COLLEGE.

This is a College of a very late Erection; for it was but in *September* 1740. that his Majesty's Royal Charter passed the Broad-seal, to erect *Hart-hall*, as it was before called, into a College; to consist of a Principal, as before, Four Senior and Eight junior Fellows: so that, at last, the Reverend Dr. *Richard Newton*, the worthy Principal, after an Opposition of several Years, given by some who ought to have assisted his generous View, has obtained a Point which lay very near his Heart; though not till several of his worthy Friends (who would have contributed largely to its Endowment, had it been effected in their Time) are demised, which must necessarily be a great Disadvantage to the good Design.

This College, as it must now be called, stands in the Parish of *St. Peter's* in the East. It is supposed to have had its Name of *Hart-hall* from the first Syllable of *Elias Hartford's* Surname, who was once Owner of it. *Walter Stapledon* Bishop of *Exeter*, having bought it, converted it, *Anno* 1314. into an academical Seminary, by the Name of *Stapledon-hall*, and endowed it with Maintenance for Twelve Scholars, which he removed afterwards to *Exeter-College*, on building the same; and then this Hall resumed its own Name. It has a Stipend

pend or Exhibition belonging to it, of more than 16 *l.* per Annum.

It consists of one Quadrangle, not very regular; and the present worthy Principal has made several, and had projected still greater, Additions to it, which would have taken place long ago, but for the Reasons above given.

These are the Twenty Colleges, of which at present this famous University consists. There are, besides, Five Halls, which are Places unendowed, though not destitute of Exhibitions. The Students in these subsist at their own Charge, are under the Government of a Principal and Vice-principal, and pay the former for their Lodging, &c. The Principals are nominated by the Chancellor, except the Principals of *Edmund-hall*. Their Visitor is the Chancellor.

I will give a brief Account of each of these: and,

1. ALBAN-HALL.

It is situate on the South-side of the Town, and had its Name from *Robert St. Alban*, once Proprietor of the Place. It became academical about the Year 1230. There was lately no more than one Member, besides the Principal, in this House.

The Front makes but a tolerable Appearance; but the Inside falls short even of that.

2. EDMUND-HALL

Is situate in the Parish of *St. Peter's* in the East; and has its Name probably from one *Edmund*, a Citizen of *Oxford*, Proprietor of the Place. Anno 1557. it was purchased by *Queen's-College*, and converted to its present Use, containing, besides the Principal, about Twenty Students.

It makes one Quadrangle; on the East-side of which stands a very neat Chapel and Library, built some Years since by the Reverend Mr. *Stephen Penton*, its Principal.

3. ST. MARY-HALL,

Situate in the Parish of *St. Mary*, has its Name either

either from that Church, which, with this Hall, came to belong to *Oriel-College*, by a Grant of King *Edward II.* Anno 1325. or from *Oriel-College*, heretofore called *St. Mary-Hall*.

It consists of One Quadrangle, not very regular. Dr. *John Hudson*, Principal, built here handsome Lodgings at his own Expence. There are about Thirty Students in it.

4. NEW-INN-HALL

Is situate in the North-west Part of the Town. It was called *Trilleck-Hall*, from Two Brothers, Proprietors of it, of that Name; one Bishop of *Hereford*, and the other Bishop of *Rocheſter*. Afterwards the Founder of *New-College* bought it, and gave it to that College, Anno 1392. and from that time it was called *New-Inn-Hall*. It had lately no more than One Student, besides the Principal.

The Building is antient and irregular.

5. ST. MARY-MAGDALEN-HALL,

Situate near *Magdalen-College*, was built by *William Wainfleet*, Bishop of *Wincheſter*, Anno 1480. for a Grammar-school. But it having room for academical Students, near Forty of which there are at present, and some Additions having been made to it, it became an academical Society. It enjoys Fifteen Exhibitions; Five of 8 *l.* per Annum, and Ten of 10 *l.*

The Front is the most considerable Part of it; but it has a pretty good Library.

What Additions have been made to some of the Colleges, by means of the Wills of Dr. *Ratcliffe* and Dr. *Clarke*, which I have just referred to, will, to avoid Repetition where I am so pressed for room, be best seen in Abstracts of the said Wills, which may serve as a Supplement to the foregoing Accounts of the Colleges. Dr. *Ratcliffe's* is to the following Effect:

‘ He left an Establishment of 600 *l.* per Annum for Two young Physicians to travel, to be enjoyed by them for Ten Years; after which, or in case of Death, others were to succeed them, for ever.

' The Remainder of the Estate charged to secure this annual Sum, he left to *University-College, Oxon.* for purchasing perpetual Advowsons for the Members of the same.

' To *St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London*, he left 500 *l. per Ann.* for ever, towards mending their Diet, as his Will expresses it; and 100 *l. per Ann.* more for ever, for buying of Linen.

' Five hundred Pounds, to build the Front of *University-College* answerable to what was before built, and for building the Master's Lodgings therein, and Chambers for his Two traveling Fellows.

' Forty thousand Pounds for building a Library in *Oxon*, and purchasing the Houses between *St. Mary's* and the Schools in *Cat-street*, for that Purpose; and, when built, he bequeathed 150 *l. per Annum* to the Library-keeper, and 100 *l. a Year* for ever to buy Books for the same.

' He charged all his real and personal Estate with the Payment of these great Benefactions, and other large Family-bequests; and willed, that the Residue should be applied to such charitable Purposes as his Executors should think best.

' He willed that 100 *l. a Year* for ever should be applied to keep in Repair the said Library, to commence Payment in 30 Years after his Death.

' All the Livings in his Gift, he willed should be bestowed on Members of *University-College*, and, if wanting there, to Fellows of *Lincoln-College*.

' To his Executors, who were *William Bromley, Esq;* *Sir George Beaumont, Bart.* *Thomas Sclater, Esq;* and *Antony Keck, Esq;* all since deceased, he left 500 *l. each*; and a Power of nominating Two Successors to each of them, as they respectively died.'

His Will bears Date *Sept. the 13th, 1714.* and the Doctor died *Nov. 1. the same Year.*

We shall now add, That every thing being done in

in pursuance of this Will, which the Time since his Death would permit, it may be easily conceived what a glorious Addition the Buildings finished, and finishing, by its Direction, must be to this renowned University.

George Clarke, LL. D. was several Years Representative in Parliament for the University of *Oxford*, and died *October 12. 1736*. Of whose Will take the following Abstract:

‘ He bequeathed to the Library-keeper of *Worcester-College*, 10 *l. per Annum*; and to a young Gownsmen, to attend to reach down Books, 5 *l.*

‘ Four thousand Pounds for building Nine Chambers at *Worcester-College*, and finishing the Chapel and Hall there; Six of these Chambers to be for Six additional Fellows of that College, who are to have 45 *l. each per Annum*; the other Three to be for so many additional Scholars, at 25 *l. per Ann. each*.

‘ Fifty Pounds *per Ann.* to be laid out in Books for the said College Library.

‘ He orders his Trustees, as soon as they can, to purchase the Ground adjoining to *Worcester-College*, for enlarging its Site and Conveniencies.

‘ To the University he gives the whole-length Pictures of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, to be hung in the Gallery-over the Schools; the Half-lengths of Lord Chancellor *Clarendon*, and his Son the Earl of *Rochester*, to be hung in the Delegates Room at the *Clarendon Printing-house*; and an Original, the only one, of Dr. *John Ratcliffe*, to be hung in his Library, when built.

‘ Also he bequeaths to the University all his Medals, and several other valuable Curiosities, which he wills may be kept in the *Museum Ashmoleanum*.

‘ To the *Worcester-College* Library, all his printed Books, and Prints, and such Manuscripts as his Trustees shall think fit; also to the same, all the Designs of *Inigo Jones* for *Whitehall*, which he takes notice are very valuable.

' To the same College he gives a large Two-ear'd Silver Cup, double-gilt, weighing 112 Ounces.

' To the Warden and College of *All-Souls*, whereof he was Fellow, all the Furniture in his College-chamber, and all That in the Lodgings he had built there, with his Prints therein, and Pictures over the Doors and Chimney-pieces, the Cieling-piece over the Stair-base, *Hercules* in the Garden, and *St. Luke*, in Two Columns, to be used in the Place they now are by the said Warden, and his Successors.

' To the Use of the Fellows of the said College, the Rooms under the great Dining-room, the great Dining-room itself, and the great Bedchamber, and Garrets over them.

' To *All-Souls-College* he bequeaths also his Fourth Turn of presenting to the Vicarage of *Yarnton*, for the Benefit of such of its Chaplains as have but a slender Provision; and 20 *l.* among the College-servants.

' An Augmentation, as it shall rise out of one of his Estates, to the Allowance of the Two Chaplains of *All-Souls*, whom he hopes the Society will appoint their Librarians.

' To *Queen's-College* he gives the Heads of Six Queens of *England*.'

You will refer, Sir, to the Accounts I have already given of the Colleges, and to the above Abstracts of *Dr. Ratcliffe's* and *Dr. Clarke's* Wills, and you will have a View of the State of these Colleges, even when the Works are finished as directed by those Gentlemen, and which will hold for Years to come without material Alteration, except in case of new Benefactions.

I shall now give a Summary of what a Traveler may observe further in *Oxford, en passant*; and refer the curious Inquirer to the Histories of the Place, for a more ample and particular Account than I have room to give.

Besides these Colleges and Halls, there are some public Buildings, which make a most glorious Appearance. The first and greatest of all is the *Theatre*,
a Build-

a Building not to be equaled by any thing of its Kind and Bigness in the World. Sir *Christopher Wren* was the Director of the Work. Archbishop *Sheldon* paid for it, and gave it to the University: there is a world of Decoration in the Front of it, and more beautiful Additions, by way of Ornament; and the inside Roof, finely painted and decorated, is never enough to be admired.

The *Bodleian* Library is an Ornament in itself worthy of this famous University. I have not room for its History at large, but shall briefly observe, that the first public Library in *Oxford* was erected in *Durham-College*, now *Trinity*, by *Richard* Bishop of *Durham*, Lord Treasurer to *Edward III.* it was afterwards joined to another, founded by *Cobham* Bishop of *Winchester*, and both enlarged by the Bounty of *Humphry* Duke of *Gloucester*, Founder of the Divinity-schools. But these Libraries being lost, and the Books embezilled, and the Place where they were deposited quite ruinous, Sir *Thomas Bodley*, a wealthy and learned Knight, having at a vast Expence, collected Books and Manuscripts from all Parts of the World, placed them in the old Library-room, built by the good Duke *Humphry*.

This great Work was brought to Effect the 8th of *Nov.* 1602. and has continued increasing, by the Benefactions of great and learned Men, to this Day; such as Archbishop *Laud*, the Earl of *Pembroke*, *Oliver Cromwell*, *Selden*, *Digby*, and other great Names.

Over it is a spacious Gallery, adorned with Pictures of Founders, Benefactors, &c. and with the antique Marbles, which were the learned Part of the inexhaustible Collection of the Earl of *Arundel*, which have been illustrated with the accurate Comments of *Selden* and *Prideaux*. Here are some of the most valuable *Greek* Monuments now in the World. Over the Porch, upon an handsome Pedestal of black Marble, stands the Brass Effigies of the Earl of *Pembroke*, their noble and generous Chancellor, given by the

late Earl, moulded by *Rubens*; also a very large Collection of *Greek, Roman, British, Saxon, English,* and other Coins, presented by Sir *T. Roe*, and other Hands. And that indefatigable and learned Collector of Books, and valuable Manuscripts, Dr. *Tanner*, Bishop of *St. Asaph*, who died *December 12. 1735.* bequeathed the most curious Part of his fine Collection to this noble Library.

In the Year 1740. by the Death of Mrs. *Crew*, Relict of *George Crew*, Esq; an Estate of 80 *l. per Annum* is fallen to the Head Librarian's Post, which before was very inconsiderable, though it required a constant Residence. This was a Legacy of the late Right Reverend and Right Honourable *Nathanael Lord Crew*, Bishop of *Durham*, who was such a good Benefactor to *Lincoln-College*, as I have mentioned.

Other curious things in *Oxford* are, the Schools (which are now beautifully repaired, and the Names and Arms of old Benefactors renewed and repainted), the Museum, the Chamber of Rarities, the Collection of Coins, Medals, Pictures, and antient Inscriptions, the Printing-house, the Physic-garden, the University and other Churches, the Convocation-house, &c. all worthy of a particular Description, had I room to give it.

The University is governed by a Chancellor, chosen by Scrutiny or Collection of Votes; he is generally one of the first Noblemen of the Kingdom.

By an High Steward, chosen by the Chancellor.

By a Vice-chancellor, who must be one of the Heads of a College, recommended to the University by the Chancellor.

By Two Proctors, chosen annually, by turn, out of the Colleges.

The other Officers are the public Orator, and the Keeper of the Archives, Beadles, Virger, &c.

But though I have said so much of the *University*, I must not quite forget the *City*. Let me then observe, That before *Baliol-College* they shew the Stone in the Street,

Street, which marks the Place of the Martyrdom of Archbishop *Cranmer* and Bishop *Ridley*, then upon the Banks of the Ditch, without the City Walls, which went along where the Theatre now stands.

Beyond the River, stood *Osney-abbey*, founded 1129. Upon the Bridge is a Tower, called *Frier Bacon's Study*, from that famous and learned Monk.

Over another Bridge, on the *Isis*, we went to see *Ruleigh-Abbey*, where some Ruins still remain, turned to a common Brewhouse.

Of the Castle remains a square high Tower, by the River-side, and a lofty Mount, or Keep, walled at Top, with a Stair-case going downward.

The *White-friers* was a Royal Palace; and near a Green called *Beaumonts*, they shewed us the Bottom of a Tower upon the Spot where the valiant *Richard* the First was born.

Without the Town, on all Hands, are to be seen the Fortifications erected in the late Civil Wars.

As to the City, though the Colleges make up Two Thirds of it, and are still elbowing for more Room, yet 'tis large and regular; the Streets are spacious, clean, and strait; the Place pleasant and healthful; the Inhabitants genteel and courteous; the Churches many and elegant, especially *Allhallows*; and, taking it all together, and including the Grandeur and Endowment of the Colleges, their Chapels, Halls, Libraries, Quadrangles, Piazza's, Gardens, Walks, Groves, &c. it must be considered as the first University in the World, as I have before mentioned.

On the Left-hand, on the other Side the River, the last Remains of *Godstow* Nunnery are situated among the sweet Meadows. Here fair *Rosamond* had a remarkably fine Tomb; but before the Dissolution scarce could her Ashes rest, *whose Beauty was thought guilty*, as one says, *even after Death*.

I cannot leave *Oxford* without making one Observation, with regard to those who insist, that it

was to the Piety of the Popish Times that we owe the first Institution of the University itself, the Foundation and Endowment of the particular Colleges, and the Encouragement arising to Learning from thence: all which I readily grant; but would have them remember too, that though those Foundations stood, as they tell us, 800 Years, and that the Reformation, as they say, is not above 200 Years standing, yet Learning has more increased, and the Universities flourished more, more great Scholars been produced, greater Libraries been raised, and more fine Buildings been erected, in these 200 Years, than in the 800 Years of Popery; and I might add, as many great Benefactions have been given, notwithstanding this very momentous Difference, that the Protestants Gifts are merely Acts of Charity to the World, and Acts of Bounty, in Reverence to Learning, and learned Men, without the grand Incitement of the State of their own Souls, and those of their Fathers, which were to be prayed out of Purgatory, and get a ready Admission into Heaven.

Oxford was made an Episcopal See in 1541. when *Robert King*, the last Abbat of *Osney*, was elected Bishop. Here are Two Charity-schools, one erected by the University for 54 Boys, the other by the City for 50 Boys and Girls. — The City and University send each Two Members to Parliament.

This Place was for many Years advantaged by the Neighbourhood of the Royal Court, while several Kings of *England*, being taken with the fine Situation of *Woodstock*, made their Palace there the Place of their Summer Retreat.

Dr. Plott allows it to have been a Royal House ever since King *Alfred*; and a Manuscript in the *Cotton* Library confirms it; and that King *Henry I.* was not the Founder of it, but only rebuilt it. And as for *Henry II.* who kept his Fair *Rosamond* in it, he made only some Additions to it, for the Entertainment and Security of his beautiful Mistress. Notwithstanding which, the Queen, having got Access

to her in the King's Absence, as Tradition informs us, dispatched her by Poison.

When I was first at *Woodstock*, some Years ago, I saw Part of the old Palace, and the famous Labyrinth of Fair *Rosamond*; but now these are destroyed. Her Bathing-place, or *Well*, as it is called, is left; a quadrangular Receptacle of pure Water, immediately flowing from a little Spring under the Hill, overshadowed with Trees; near which are some Ruins of Walls and Arches. King *Ethelred* called a Parliament here. It has been a Royal Seat, as I have said, from most antient Times. *Henry I.* inclosed the Park. Across this Valley was a remarkably fine Echo, that would repeat a whole Hexameter, but impaired by the Removal of these Buildings. A stately Bridge, or Rialto rather, now leads along the grand Approach to the present Castle: one Arch is above 190 Feet Diameter; a Cascade of Water falls from a Lake down some Stone Steps into the Canal that runs under it.

The new Palace of *Blenheim* is a vast and magnificent Pile of Building: a Royal Gift to the high Merit of the invincible Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Roof is adorned with a Stone Balustrade, and a good Number of Statues; but there are several Towers, or, as some call them, *Cupola's* (though they resemble neither), which have a very heavy Aspect: these are far from being an Ornament, and seem such an useless Weight, that one would think they were intended to sink the Fabric beneath the Surface of the Earth: which occasioned the following Epitaph on the deceased Architect *Vanbrugh*:

*Lie heavy on him, Earth! for he
Laid many a heavy Load on thee.*

The lofty Hall is painted by Sir *James Thornhill*, the Cieling by *La Guerre*. The Rooms are finely enriched with Marble Chimney-pieces and Furniture, but more by the incomparable Paintings and Hang-

ings; which latter represent the principal Glories of the Duke's Life. Among the Pictures, are many of *Rubens's* best and largest Pieces; that celebrated one of himself, his Wife and Child, among others: *Vandyke's* King *Charles I.* upon a dun Horse, of great Value; and the famous Loves of the Gods, by *Titian*, a Present from the King of *Sardinia*. The Gallery is worthy Admiration, lined with Marble Pilasters, and whole Pillars of one Piece, supporting a most costly and curious Entablature, excellent for Matter and Workmanship, the Window-frames of the same, and a Basement of black Marble quite round. Before it, is stretched out a most agreeable Prospect of the fine Woods beyond the great Valleys. What is of the most elegant Taste in the whole House, is of the Duchess's own designing. The Chapel is equal to the rest. The Garden is a very large Plot of Ground, taken out of the Park, and may still be said to be a Part of it, well-contrived, by sinking the outer Wall into a Foss, to give a View quite round, and take off the odious Appearance of Confinement and Limitation to the Eye. It is within well adorned with Walks, Greens, Espaliers, and Vista's to divers remarkable Objects, that offer themselves in the circumjacent Country. Over the Pediment of this Front of the House is a curious Marble Busto of *Lewis XIV.* bigger than the Life, taken from the Gate of the Citadel of *Tournay*. The Orangery is a pretty Room. Near the Gate of the Palace is the House where our famous *Chaucer* was born. At the Entrance into the Castle from the Town, her Grace has erected a noble triumphal Arch, to the Memory of the Duke; and has set up a vast Obelisk in the principal Avenue of the Park, whereon is inscribed the best Account of the Duke's Actions and Character, that ever was penned in the same Compass; and indeed is supposed to be written by the greatest Genius of his Time, the late Lord Viscount *B.*

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The Inscription does so much Honour to the Memory of the Duke, and at the same time to the *British* Nation, that I cannot deny to myself the Pleasure of inserting it here, as follows:

The Castle of *Blenheim* was founded by Queen ANNE,
 In the Fourth Year of her Reign,
 In the Year of the Christian Æra 1705.
 A Monument designed to perpetuate the Memory of the
 Signal Victory
 Obtained over the *French* and *Bavarians*,
 Near the Village of *Blenheim*,
 On the Banks of the *Danube*,
 By JOHN Duke of MARLBOROUGH:
 The Hero not only of this Nation, but of this Age;
 Whose Glory was equal in the Council and in the Field;
 Who by Wisdom, Justice, Candour, and Address,
 Reconciled various, and even opposite, Interests;
 Acquired an Influence
 Which no Rank, no Authority, can give,
 Nor any Force but that of superior Virtue;
 Became the fixed important Centre,
 Which united, in one common Cause,
 The principal States of *Europe*;
 Who by military Knowledge, and irresistible Valour,
 In a long Series of uninterrupted Triumphs,
 Broke the Power of *France*,
 When raised the highest, when exerted the most;
 Rescued the Empire from Desolation;
 Asserted and confirmed the Liberties of *Europe*.

Philip, a Grandson of the House of *France*, united to the Interests, directed by the Policy, supported by the Arms of that Crown, was placed on the Throne of *Spain*. King WILLIAM III. beheld this formidable Union, of Two great, and once rival Monarchies. At the End of a Life spent in defending the Liberties of *Europe*, he saw them in their greatest Danger.

Danger. He provided for their Security in the most effectual Manner. He took the Duke of MARLBOROUGH into his Service.

Embassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
To the *States-General* of the *United Provinces*,

The Duke contracted several Alliances before the Death of King WILLIAM. He confirmed and improved these. He contracted others, after and Accession of Queen ANNE; and reunited the Confederacy, which had been dissolved at the End of a former War, in a stricter and firmer League.

Captain-General and Commander in Chief
Of the Forces of GREAT BRITAIN,

The Duke led to the Field the Army of the Allies. He took with surprising Rapidity *Venlo*, *Ruremonde*, *Stevenswaert*, and *Liege*. He extended and secured the Frontiers of the *Dutch*. The Enemies, whom he found insulting at the Gates of *Nimeghen*, were driven to seek for Shelter behind their Lines. He forced *Bonne*, *Huy*, *Limburgh*, in another Campaign. He opened the Communication of the *Rhine*, as well as the *Maes*. He added all the Country between these Rivers to his former Conquests. The Army of *France*, favoured by the Defection of the Elector of *Bavaria*, had penetrated into the Heart of the *Empire*. This mighty Body lay exposed to immediate Ruin. In that memorable Crisis, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH led his Troops with unexampled Celerity, Secrecy, Order, from the *Ocean* to the *Danube*. He saw: He attacked: Nor stopped, but to conquer the Enemy. He forced the *Bavarians*, sustained by the *French*, in their strong Intrenchments at *Schellenberg*. He passed the *Danube*. A Second Royal Army, composed of the best Troops of *France*,
was

was sent to reinforce the First. That of the Confederates was divided. With one Part of it the Siege of *Ingolstadt* was carried on. With the other the Duke gave Battle to the united Strength of *France* and *Bavaria*. On the 2d Day of *August* 1704. he gained a more glorious Victory than the Histories of any Age can boast. The Heaps of Slain were dreadful Proofs of his Valour. A Marshal of *France*, whole Legions of *French*, his Prisoners, proclaimed his Mercy. *Bavaria* was subdued, *Ratisbon*, *Augsbουργ*, *Ulm*, *Memminghen*, all the Usurpations of the Enemy were recovered. The Liberty of the *Diet*, the Peace of the *Empire*, were restored. From the *Danube*, the Duke turned his victorious Arms towards the *Rhine*, and the *Moselle*. *Landau*, *Treves*, *Traerbach*, were taken. In the Course of one Campaign, the very Nature of the War was changed. The Invaders of other States were reduced to defend their own. The Frontier of *France* was exposed in its weakest Part to the Efforts of the Allies.

That he might improve this Advantage, that he might push the Sum of Things to a speedy Decision, the Duke of *MARLBOROUGH* led his Troops early in the following Year once more to the *Moselle*. They, whom he had saved a few Months before, neglected to second him now. They, who might have been his Companions in Conquest, refused to join him. When he saw the generous Designs he had formed, frustrated by private Interest, by Pique, by Jealousy, he returned with Speed to the *Maes*. He returned ; and Fortune and Victory returned with him. *Liege* was relieved ; *Huy* retaken. The *French*, who had pressed the Army of the *States-General* with superior Numbers, retired behind Intrenchments, which they deemed impregnable. The Duke forced these Intrenchments, with inconsiderable Loss, on the 7th Day of *July* 1705. He defeated a great Part of the Army which defended them. The rest escaped by
a pre-

a precipitate Retreat. If Advantages proportionable to this Success were not immediately obtained, let the Failure be ascribed to that Misfortune which attends most Confederacies; a Division of Opinions, where one alone should judge; a Division of Power, where one alone should command. The Disappointment itself did Honour to the Duke. It became the Wonder of Mankind how he could do so much under those Restraints, which had hindered him from doing more.

Powers more absolute were given him afterwards. The Increase of his Powers multiplied his Victories. At the Opening of the next Campaign, when all his Army was not yet assembled; when it was hardly known, that he had taken the Field; the Noise of his Triumphs was heard over *Europe*. On the 12th of *May* 1706. he attacked the *French* at *Ramillies*. In the Space of Two Hours the whole Army was put to Flight. The Vigour and Conduct, with which he improved this Success, were equal to those where-with he gained it. *Louvain, Brussels, Malines, Liere, Ghent, Oudenard, Antwerp, Damme, Bruges, Courtray*, surrendered. *Ostend, Menin, Dendermond*, and *Aeth*, were taken. *Brabant* and *Flanders* were recovered. Places which had resisted the greatest Generals for Months, for Years; Provinces disputed for Ages; were the Conquests of a Summer. Nor was the Duke content to triumph alone. Solicitous for the general Interest, his Care extended to the remotest Scenes of the War. He chose to lessen his own Army, that he might enable the Leaders of other Armies to conquer. To this it must be ascribed that *Turin* was relieved; the Duke of *Savoy* reinstated; the *French* driven with Confusion out of *Italy*.

These Victories gave the Confederates an Opportunity of carrying on the War on every Side into the Dominions of *France*. But she continued to enjoy a kind of peaceful Neutrality in *Germany*. From *Italy*

she

she was once alarmed, and had no more to fear. The intire Reduction of his Power, whose Ambition had caused, whose Strength supported the War, seemed reserved for him alone, who had so triumphantly begun the glorious Work.

The Barrier of *France*, on the Side of the *Low-Countries*, had been forming for more than half a Century. What Art, Power, Expence, could do, had been done to render it impenetrable. Yet here she was most exposed; for here the Duke of MARLBOROUGH threatened to attack her.

To cover what they had gained by Surprise, or had been yielded to them by Treachery, the *French* marched to the Banks of the *Schelde*. At their Head were the Princes of the Blood, and their most fortunate General the Duke of *Vendosme*. Thus commanded, thus posted, they hoped to check the Victor in his Course. Vain were their Hopes. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH passed the River in their Sight. He defeated their whole Army. The Approach of Night concealed, the Proximity of *Ghent* favoured, their Flight. They neglected nothing to repair their Loss, to defend their Frontier. New Generals, new Armies, appeared in the *Netherlands*. All contributed to enhance the Glory, none were able to retard the Progress, of the confederate Army.

Lisle, the Bulwark of this Barrier, was besieged. A numerous Garison, and a Marshal of *France*, defended the Place. Prince EUGENE of *Savoy* commanded, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH covered and sustained the Siege. The Rivers were seized, and the Communication with *Holland* interrupted. The Duke opened new Communications with great Labour, and much greater Art. Through Countries over-run by the Enemy, the necessary Convoys arrived in Safety. One alone was attacked. The Troops which attacked it were beat. The Defence of *Lisle* was animated by Assurances of Relief.

The

The *French* assembled all their Force. They marched towards the Town. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH offered them Battle, without suspending the Siege. They abandoned the Enterprize. They came to save the Town. They were Spectators of its Fall.

From this Conquest the Duke hastened to others. The Posts taken by the Enemy on the *Schelde* were surprised. That River was passed the Second time, and notwithstanding the great Preparations made to prevent it, without Opposition.

Brussels, besieged by the Elector of *Bavaria*, was relieved. *Ghent* surrendered to the Duke in the Middle of a Winter remarkably severe. An Army, little inferior to his own, marched out of the Place.

As soon as the Season of the Year permitted him to open another Campaign, the Duke besieged and took *Tournay*. He invested *Mons*. Near this City, the *French* Army, covered by thick Woods, defended by noble Intrenchments, waited to molest, nor presumed to offer Battle. Even this was not attempted by them with Impunity. On the last Day of *August* 1709. the Duke attacked them in their Camp. All was employed; nothing availed against the Resolution of such a General, against the Fury of such Troops. The Battle was bloody. The Event decisive. The Woods were pierced. The Fortifications trampled down. The Enemy fled. The Town was taken. *Doway*, *Bethune*, *Aire*, *St. Venant*, *Bouchain*, underwent the same Fate in Two succeeding Years. Their vigorous Resistance could not save them. The Army of *France* durst not attempt to relieve them. It seemed preserved to defend the Capital of the Monarchy.

The Prospect of this extreme Distress was neither distant nor dubious. The *French* acknowledged their Conqueror, and sued for Peace.

These are the Actions of the late Duke of MARLBOROUGH,
Performed in the Compass of a few Years,
Sufficient to adorn the Annals of Ages.

The Admiration of other Nations
Will be conveyed to latest Posterity,
In the Histories even of the Enemies of BRITAIN.
The Sense which the *British* Nation had
Of his transcendent Merit,

Was expressed
In the most solemn, most effectual, most durable Manner.

The Acts of Parliament * inscribed on this Pillar
Shall stand

As long as the *British* Name and Language last,
Illustrious Monuments
Of MARLBOROUGH's Glory,
And
Of BRITAIN's Gratitude.

At *Woodstock* they make the fine Steel Chains for
Watches, and other things of polished Steel; and send
Two Members to Parliament.

From *Woodstock* I went North-west to *Chipping-
Norton*, which must have been once a Town of great
Trade, by the Number of Merchants, as they are called
in the Brasses over their Monuments; and, besides, the
Name *Chipping* denotes as much. There are Marks of
a Castle by the Church; and *Roman* Coins are fre-
quently found here. The Church is a good Building,
and after a curious Model.

Hence we rode to see *Rowldrich* Stones, a little
Stone-henge, being a Circle of great Stones standing up-
right, some of them from Five to Seven Feet high, and
probably the *Vestigia* of an old *British* Temple, as that
was; and Mr. *Toland* positively asserts, that they were so.

* Several Recitals of Clauses in Acts of Parliament, made to do Ho-
nour to this immortal Commander, are engraven on the same superb
Pillar.

At

At *Tidmerton* Parish, is a large Camp of an orbicular Form, on the Summit of an Hill, which is doubly intrenched, and able to contain a great Army.

When I was at *Banbury*, I should have mentioned *Bloxham*, which lies South of it; where is a fine Church, the Steeple of an odd, but agreeable Make.

Near *Bloxham* is also the famous Parish of *Brightwell*, of which it was observed, that there had not been an Alehouse, nor a Dissenter from the Church, nor any Quarrel among the Inhabitants that rose so high as to a Suit of Law, within the Memory of Man.

But they could not say it was so still, especially as to the Alehouse Part; though very much is still preserved as to the Unity and good Neighbourhood of the Parishioners, and their Conformity to the Church.

Being now on the Side of *Warwickshire*, as is said before, I still went South; and, passing by the *Four Shire Stones*, erected in 1741. we saw where the Counties of *Oxford*, *Warwick*, *Worcester*, and *Gloucester*, join Four together; one Side of this Stone fronting each County.

Entering *Gloucestershire* here, Westward, we came, after a Mile's Ride, to *Moretonhenmarsh*, a small Town which had formerly a Market, but now discontinued: it lies on the great Road to *Worcester*. And the famous Roman Fosseway, which, coming out of *Warwickshire*, enters this County at *Lemington*, which lies North-east of this Town, strikes thro' it, and also through *Stow* and *North-Lech*, down to *Cirencester*, Southward.

Hence we come to the famous *Cotswold-downs*, so eminent for the best of Sheep, and finest Wool in *England*: Fame tells us, that some of these Sheep were sent by King *Richard I.* into *Spain*; and that from hence the Breed of their Sheep was raised, which now produce so fine a Wool, that we are obliged to fetch it from thence at a great Price, for making our finest Broad-cloths.

Upon

Upon these Downs, we had a clare View of the aforementioned famous *Fosse*, which evidently crosses all the middle Part of *England*, and is to be seen and known though in no Place plainer than here) quite from the *Path* to *Warwick*, and thence to *Leicester*, to *Newark*, to *Lincoln*, and on to *Barton*, upon the Bank of *Humber*.

We observed also how several cross Roads, as ancient as the *Fosse*, joined it, or branched out of it; some of which the People have by antient Usage, tho' corruptly, called also *Fosses*: for Example,

The *Ackman-street*, which is an antient Saxon Road, leading from *Buckinghamshire* through *Oxfordshire*, to the *Fosse*, and so to the *Bath*; this joins the *Fosse* between *Burford* and *Cirencester*. Also *Grimesdyke*, from *Oxfordshire*, *Wattle-bank*, or *Aves-ditch*, from the same, and the *Would-way*, called also the *Fosse*, crossing from *Gloucester* to *Cirencester*.

Many Seats of the Nobility are to be found in *Oxfordshire*; *Cornbury*, Lord *Clarendon's*; *Ditchley*, Lord *Litchfield's*; *Hathorp*, the Earl of *Shrewsbury's*, new-built of Stone very beautifully.

The *Lech*, the *Coln*, the *Churn*, and the *Isis*, all rise in the *Cotswould Hills*, and joining together, make a full Stream at *Lechlade* in *Gloucestershire*, and become one River there, and are called the *Thames*, which begins there to be navigable; and Barges may be seen at the Quay, taking in Goods for *London*: which makes *Lechlade* very populous. Of which Town more by-and-by.

Stow on the Would, which is the next Town we came to, is but indifferent to look at; but is, or rather has been, remarkable for its Two annual Fairs, famous for Hops, Cheese, and Sheep, of which, 'tis said, that above 20,000 are generally sold at one Fair; and that the Toll of these Fairs, and the Markets, amount to 80*l.* a Year. The Parish is very large, being 12 Miles
in

in Compass, and consists of Meadow, Arable, and Pasture. Here is a good large Rectory-Church standing on an Hill, with an high Tower on the South-side of it, which is seen a great Distance off. Here are also an Hospital, Alms-house, and Freeschool, all well endow'd; besides other Charities.

North-Lech is also a Market-town, governed by a Bailiff, and Two Constables; and is named from the River *Lech*, which runs through it. Here is a Vicarage-Church, large and spacious, having Isles on each Side, and handsome Windows, with a large Tower. Here is a Grammar-school, free for all the Boys of the Town, endowed with 80 *l.* a Year. And 'tis said, that the Founder, falling afterwards into Misfortunes, solicited for the Master's Place of his own School, but could not obtain it from the Trustees.

Here we quitted the *Roman Fosse*, and went Eastward to *Burford* in *Oxfordshire*. King *Henry II.* gave this Town a Charter, *Guildam, et omnes consuetudines, quas habent liberi burgenses de Oxenford*; but they are almost all now lost: however, it retains some Marks of a Corporation still, being governed by Two Bailiffs, and other inferior Officers. It is famous for Saddles, and, lying near the Downs, draws great Profit from the Horse-races, which are frequent here. At this Place was convened a Synod in 685. against the Error of the *British Churches* in the Observance of *Easter*.

At *Battle-edge*, near this Town, *Cuthred*, King of the *West Saxons*, beat *Ethelbald*, King of the *Mercians*, in a pitched Battle, and threw off his Yoke. The Inhabitants celebrate yearly, on *Midsummer-eve*, a kind of Festival, which, they say, commenced in Honour of this Battle. It was here the learned Dr. *Heylin* (descended originally from an antient Family in *Wales*) was born; and the famous Speaker *Lenthall* had a Seat, and died here.

Being

Being so near *Witney*, we could not forbear taking a Ride to see a Town so famous for the Manufactures of Blanketing and Rugs, which thrive here in a most extraordinary Manner. Here are at work 150 Looms continually, for which above 3000 People, from Eight Years old and upwards, are daily employed in Carding, Spinning, &c. and consume above 100 Packs of Wool weekly. The Blankets are usually 10 or 12 Quarters wide, and very white, which some attribute to the alterfive nitrous Waters of the River *Windrush*, wherewith they are scoured; but others believe it is owing to a peculiar way of loose Spinning they use here; and others again are of Opinion, that it proceeds from both. But, however that be, this Town has ingrossed the whole Trade in that Commodity, and increases daily in its Reputation. They likewise make here the *Duffield* Stuffs, a Yard and Three Quarters wide, which are carried to *New England* and *Virginia*, and now much worn even here in Winter. Here are likewise a great many Fellmongers, who, having dressed and stained their Sheep-skins, make them into Jackets and Breeches, and sell them at *Bampton*; from whence they are dispersed all over the neighbouring Counties. Here is a good Freeschool, and a fine Library belonging to it.

Witney is an antient Town, and of good Repute before the Conquest; but it is a long, straggling, uncouth Place, though full of Inhabitants. 'Twas one of the Manors which *Alwinus* Bishop of *Winchester* gave to the Church of *St. Swithin* there on Queen *Emma's* happily passing over the *Fire Ordeal*.

At *Astal*, a Village on the Road between *Burford* and *Witney*, is a Barrow which stands very high, and is supposed to be the Sepulchre of some Person of great Note.

Southward lies *Bampton*, on the Borders of the County next *Berkshire*. It is an antient Market-town, likewise in Repute before the Conquest: it is noted for the greatest Market for Fellmonger-wares in *England*, which

which come from *Witney*, and for nothing else that know of.

Turning here West, we entered *Gloucestershire* again, and came to *Lechlade*, which lies on the great Road to *Gloucester*. It is probable, that it was antiently a *Roman Town* upon the *Thames*; for a very plain *Roman Road* runs from hence to *Cirencester*. Some say, that it was once a famous University for teaching *Latin*, as *Creech* *lade* was for *Greek*.

The antient Building lately discovered by digging in a Meadow near *Lechlade* deserves a particular Mention: it is 50 Feet long, 40 broad, and Four high; supportee with 100 Brick Pillars, curiously inlaid with Stones of divers Colours, of Tesseraiic Work; and supposed to be a *Roman Bath*.

Not far from it are the Two Towns called *Sarney* so named in *British*, from the *Roman Causeways*; for *Sarn*, in that antient Language, and at present, imports a paved Way. The River *Lech* runs through it, and discharges itself into the *Thames*. A great Number of Barges go from hence to *London*.

From *Lechlade* we proceeded West to *Fairford*, a small Market-town, through which runs the River *Coln*, which has Two large Bridges over it. A great many Medals and Urns have been often dug up here, and there are several Barrows in the adjoining Fields (which seem to have been a Scene of warlike Actions), the Monuments of the Slain interred here.

A great many Charities are still subsisting in this Town; but what it is most noted for, is its Church, and the admirable Painting in its Windows: of which take the following Description and History.

John Tame, a Merchant of *London*, purchased this Manor of King *Henry VII.* (to whom it descended from the *Beauchamps*, Earls of *Warwick*); and having taken a Prize-ship bound for *Rome*, wherein he found a great Quantity of painted Glass, he brought both the

Glass

Glass and the Workmen into *England*. The Glass was such a Curiosity, that Mr. *Tame* built this Church at *Fairford* (dedicating it to the *Virgin Mary*); which is in Length 125 Feet, and 55 in Breadth; and has Three Chancels, a good Vestry, and a noble Tower, arising from the Midst of it, adorned with Pinacles; and the Windows of the Church, 28 in Number, he caused to be glazed with this invaluable Prize, which remains intire to this Day, the Admiration of all that see it.

Mrs. *Farmer* (a Daughter of the Lord *Lemster*) gave 200 *l.* to be laid out in mending and wiring the Windows: this has preserved them from Accidents. And, in the grand Rebellion, the Impropiator Mr. *Oldworth*, and others (to their great Praise be it remembred!), took down the Glass, and secured it in some secret Place, thereby preserving it from fanatic Rage. The Painting was the Design of *Albert Durer*, a famous *Italian* Master; and the Colouring in the Drapery, and some of the Figures, is so well performed, that *Vandyke*. affirmed, the Pencil could not exceed it.

The Subject is all Scripture History; viz. The Serpent tempting *Eve*; God appearing in the burning Bush to *Moses*, when a Shepherd; the Angel conducting *Joshua* to War; *Gideon's* Fleece; the Queen of *Sheba's* Visit to *Solomon*; King *David* judging the *Amalekite* Regicide; *Samson* slaying the *Philistines*, killing the Lion, and his being betrayed by *Dalilah*; *Solomon's* Judgment between the Two Harlots; and the Figures of the Twelve major Prophets.

But the greatest Part is taken up with the Stories of the New Testament: The Angel appearing to *Zacharias*; *Joseph* and *Mary* contracted; the Visitation of *Mary* by the Angel, and her visiting her Cousin *Elizabeth*; our Saviour born in a Stable; the Shepherds and *Magi* visiting him there; *Herod* waiting the Return of the wise Men; *Christ* circumcised; the Purification of the Holy Virgin; *Simeon* with our Saviour in his Arms; *Joseph's* Flight into *Egypt*;
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Herod slaying the young Children of *Bethlehem*; the Assumption of the Virgin; and *Joseph* and she seeking *Jesus* at the Feast; our Saviour's Transfiguration; *Mary* anointing his Head; the Disciples going to embalm him, and the Angel relating to them his Resurrection; *Christ's* Appearance to *Mary Magdalen*; his riding to *Jerusalem* on an Ass; *Zaccheus*, and the People strewing Palm-branches, and Children crying, *Hosanna*; his praying in the Garden; *Judas* betraying him; *Pilate* judging him, and washing his Hands from the Guilt; the Crucifixion between Two Thieves, the Women standing by, and the Soldiers watching him; *Joseph* of *Arimathea* begging the Body, and receiving it; his Burial by *Nicodemus*, and others; the Darkness at the Passion; and *Michael* contending with the Devil.

Christ's traveling to *Emmaus*, and his Appearance to the Eleven, and afterwards to *Thomas*; his Disciples going a fishing, and *Christ's* appearing to them, with the breaking of the Net, and broiling of the Fish; *Christ's* Ascension; and the Descent of the Holy Ghost in cloven Tongues.

In the West Window is the Last Judgment, curiously designed, and well executed, containing a vast Number of Incidents relating thereto.

In the rest of the Windows are many historical Passages, that happened after *Christ's* Ascension; viz. The Twelve Apostles at large, with the Article of the Creed they are said to be severally the Authors of; the Four Evangelists, as writing the Gospels; Four principal Fathers of the Church; viz. St. *Jerom*, St. *Gregory*, St. *Ambrose*, and St. *Austin*; the Worthies that have preserved the Christian Church, in Four Upper-windows of the middle Isle on the South-side, and the Persecutors thereof in the Four opposite Windows.

I have been as brief as possible in this Description, being so much confined in my Limits; but a curious Traveler will be highly delighted with this noble Work.

Ann

And I shall only add, That *John Tame*, Esq; the pious and worthy Founder, who died in the Year 1500. lies buried on the North-side of the Church, under a raised Marble Monument.

On the *Churn*, one of the Rivers I have just named, stands *Cirencester* (or *Cicester*, for Brevity), the ancient *Corinium* of the Romans, and said to be rebuilt by *Cissa*, a Viceroy under one of the *Saxon* Kings, a great and populous City; then inclosed with Walls, and a Ditch of vast Compass, which may be traced quite round. The Foundation of the Wall is also very visible in most Places. A good Part of this Circuit is now Pasture, Corn-fields, and Gardens, besides the Site of the present Town. Antiquities are dug up here every Day; old Foundations, Houses, and Streets, and many mosaic Pavements, with Rings, Intaglia's, and Coins innumerable, especially in one great Garden, called *Lewis's Grounds*, which might have been the *Prætorium*, or General's Quarters; for *Llys*, in *British*, signifies a Palace. Large Quantities of carved Stones are carried off yearly in Carts, to mend the Highways, besides what have been used in Building. A fine mosaic Pavement was dug up here *Anno* 1723. with many Coins. One Mr. *Richard Bishop* lately dug up in his Garden a Vault 16 Feet long, and 12 broad, supported with square Pillars of *Roman* Brick, Three Feet and an half high, on which was a strong Floor of Terrace. Near it are now several other Vaults, on which Cherry-trees grow. These might have been the Foundations of a Temple; for in the same Place they found several Stones of the Shafts of Pillars Six Feet long, and large Stone Bases, with Cornices very handsomely moulded, and carved with Modillions, and other Ornaments, which are now converted into Swine-troughs, and Pavements before the Door. Capitals of these Pillars were likewise found. A mosaic Pavement near it, and intire, is now the Floor of his Privy.

Half a Mile West of the Town, on the North-side of the *Fosse* Road, at a Place called *Quern*, other Antiquities are to be seen worth an Antiquary's Attention; but I must not take up too much room in describing them.

Little of the Abbey is now left, besides Two old and indifferent Gate-houses. The Church is a very handsome Building; the Windows are full of painted Glass; and it has a fine lofty Tower. East of the Town, about a Quarter of a Mile, is *Starbury-mount*, a Barrow, where *Roman* Coins have been dug up. West, behind Lord *Bathurst's* Garden, is *Grismund's-mount*, of which several Fables are told.

Cirencester is still a very good Town, populous and rich, full of Clothiers, and driving a great Trade in Wool, which is brought from the Inland Counties of *Leicester*, *Northampton*, and *Lincoln*, where the largest Sheep in *England* feed, and where are but few Manufactures. The vast Quantities sold here are almost incredible. The Wool is bought up here, chiefly by the Clothiers of *Wiltshire* and *Gloucestershire*, for the Supply of that great Clothing-trade, which I have mentioned already: they talk of 5000 Packs a Year.

The Town is governed by Two High Constables. It has Two weekly Markets; one on *Monday*, for Corn, Cattle, and Provisions; and on *Friday*, for Wool chiefly. It has also Five Fairs, Three for all sorts of Commodities, and Two for Cloth only; and sends Two Members to Parliament. Here is a fine large beautiful Church with Two Isles, supported by strong Pillars. The Chancel is handsomely decorated. It has Five Chapels adjoining to it, and has a Tower very neat and lofty, with an excellent Ring of Bells in it. The Windows shew some beautiful Remains of exquisite painted Glass. There are a Free-school and divers Hospitals and Alms-houses, in this Parish.

The *Churn* runs from hence down Southward to *Creeklade* in *Wiltshire*, which is said to have been antiently a very noted Place, containing 1300 Houses, and that an University was here founded by the antient Britons, for teaching *Greek*, as I have said p. 264. as *Lechlade* was for *Latin*; which University was removed, as they pretend, by the Saxons, to *Oxon*: but, I doubt, these are Monkish Accounts; for *Creeklade*, which they would have to signify a *Greek Town*, is a Corruption of the *British* Word *Kerigg gwlade*, i. e. a stony Country. The *Churn* and the *Rey* fall, here, into the *Thames*. Here is a good Freeschool; and the Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

North-west of *Cirencester*, upon an Hill, stands *Stroud*, a little Market-town, noted for Clothing, and particularly for dying excellent Scarlet. The Church is 90 Feet long, and 40 broad. The Chancel is 33 Feet long, and 16 wide. At the West-end rises an high Spire Steeple, and a Tower in the Middle.

North of it stands *Paynswick*, a Market-town, situate in the wholsomest Air in *Gloucestershire*, on the River *Stroud*, where the Clothing-trade is also carried on. The Church is a Vicarage, and very handsome, with Two Chancels, a N. Isle, and a neat Spire.

Lower to the West of *Cirencester* stands *Minching-Hampton*; so called, because it belonged to the *Minching* Nuns at *Caen* in *Normandy*. Here is a good Rectory-Church worth 200 *l.* a Year, large, in the Form of a Cross, with Isles on each Side, and a Tower with Battlements rising in the Middle. In the North Isle are a great many Inscriptions of Benefactions. And in the South Isle is the Statue of a Man lying cross-legg'd, with a Sword and Shield by him, and his Wife lying at his Feet.

Then we came to *Tetbury*, one of the Clothing Towns I mentioned; a considerable Market-town,

situate on a rising Ground, in an healthy Air, but scarce of Water in Summer. 'Tis well-built; has a large Market-house well frequented for Yarn; and there is a lesser Market-house, for Cheese, Bacon, and other Commodities. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff, and at the End of the Town is a long Bridge, whereof one half is in *Wiltshire*. The Church is a Vicarage, worth 120 l. a Year: 'tis a good Building, large and handsome, in which are divers Monuments. Here are a Freeschool, and an Alms-house. It had formerly a Castle built by *Dunwallo Malmufius*, a *British* Prince. The Town seems to be well furnished with every thing but Water; which is so scarce, that the Inhabitants are obliged to buy it at the Rate sometimes of 18 d. for an Hogshead. In this Parish rises the River *Avon*, which runs through *Bristol*, and afterwards falls into the *Severn*.

A little to the North of this Town is a Meadow, called *Maudlin Meadow*, because, as I was told, it belongs to *Magdalen-College* in *Oxford*. Here the Inhabitants shewed me the Head of a Spring, which flowing from thence runs along an Hedge-trough; and some Tops of the Wood, that grows in the Hedge, rotting, and falling into this Rill of Water, are, by it, turned into Stone. I took up a great many of them, which are generally in the Shape of the Pipes (as they are commonly called), which the Peruke-makers curl their Hair upon, and of a whitish, stony Substance. I broke divers of them, and in the Middle found generally a Stick of Wood, some as big as a Goose-quill, others larger; some had but a thin stony Crust about them; in others the Stick was no bigger than a large Needle: again, some had no Stick in them, but only an Hole through them, like that of a Tobacco-pipe; and in some others I could perceive no woody Substance, nor Hole at all, but the Whole was a soft kind of Stone. Hence I guess, that the Sand, which the Water brings down with it, gathers and crusts about those Sticks; and that, in time, the Stick consumes,

fumes, and the stony or sandy Substance fills up and supplies its Place. And I would hence recommend it as an Inquiry, Whether those other Transmutations of this kind, that we meet with in the Natural History of this and other Nations, be not brought about in the like manner.

And now I am dipped into this Work of Nature, let me digress a little, and take notice of the *Astroites*, or Star-stones, found at *Lassington* in this County, which have that peculiar Quality of Motion when put into Vinegar. — In the Fields, near *Badminton*, are found cylindrical and spherical Stones, almost as big as Cannon-balls; and on the Hills about *Aldely* are found Stones of the same kind with those I found about *Watchet* in *Somersetshire*, resembling all kinds of Shell-fish: these, I must confess, are, of the two, more astonishing, because they are found on the Hills; for if they were, as *Tracastorius* conjectures, Animals ingenerated in the Sea, no good Account of their being here found can be given, unless we suppose them brought hither by the general Deluge. — The Water of the River *Stroud*, in this County, is esteemed the best for dying Scarlets, which draws many Clothiers to settle in that Neighbourhood. And, lest I should be thought too tedious, let me but just mention the Diamonds (*Bristol* Stones rather) found near the Banks of the River *Avon*. That soft, easy-to-be wrought Stone at *Great Bannington*, called *Puff-stone*, prodigiously strong and lasting; a great deal of which hath been used in the Repairs of *Westminster-Abbey*.

Wickwar, a small Market-town, but a very ancient Corporation, governed by a Mayor, is the next. The Church is a large Edifice, with Two Chancels. The Tower is at the West-end, and is high, adorned with Pinacles. Here is a Free-school.

Chipping-Sodbury lies a little farther in the Road, an ancient Borough-town, under a Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgessees. As it is a great Thoroughfare to *Bristol*,

it is full of good Inns. It has several Streets, besides Lanes, and a good Market; and a large spacious Church, which, however, is but a Chapel of Ease to *Old Sodbury*. Here is the greatest Cheese market in *England*, except *Atherstone* in *Warwickshire*.

Here we dropped the Road, and fell down Southward, directly to *Marshfield*, another of the Clothing-towns I spoke of. It consists of one Street of old Buildings, near a Mile long. It has a Market, and drives also a great Trade in Malt, and is noted for good Cakes. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff. Here is a good Vicarage Church, with several Monuments and Inscriptions in the Isles, and the Chancel. Here is an Alms-house well endowed, and a Chapel to it.

We crossed the great Road from *London* to *Bristol* here, as at *Cirencester* we did that from *London* to *Gloucester*; and, keeping still the *Fosse Way*, arrived at *Bath*. But here I shall conclude this Letter, and am,

S I R,

Yours, &c.



L E T-



LETTER V.

CONTAINING

*A Description of Part of the Counties of
SOMERSET, GLOUCESTER, WAR-
WICK, WORCESTER, HEREFORD,
and MONMOUTH.*

S I R,



Closed my last Letter with my Arrival at BATH, in *Somersetshire*; and I shall now proceed with giving you an Account of what is most remarkable in it.

The Antiquity of this City, and of the famous Baths in it, must be allowed to be very great, even though we should doubt of what is insisted on in the Inscription under the Figure of King *Bladud*, placed in *The King's Bath*, which says, that this Prince (whom Mr. *Camden* calls *Blayden*, or *Bladen Cloyth*, i. e. *Soothsayer*) found out the Use of these Baths, 863 Years before our Saviour's Time.

Bath is a Spot of Ground, which our Countrymen ought to esteem as a particular Favour of Heaven. It lies in a great Valley, surrounded with an amphitheatrical View of Hills; and its Situation on the West-side

of the Island is a considerable Addition to its Delights, as being the less liable to the rude Shocks of Tempests. But the *Romans* were induced prudently, by the admirable hot Springs, to make a Station here, which they called *Camulodunum*, from the Mountain on the South-side of it, dedicated to *Camulos*, the *British* God of War, and still bearing his *Saxon* Name of *Odin*; the Hill being stiled *Odin's-Down*, through its Summit, for the chief part, goes by the Name of the Parishes among which the Land is divided. The Walls are almost intire, and perhaps the Work of the *Romans*, except the upper Part, which seems repaired with the Ruins of *Roman* Buildings; for the Lewis-holes are still left in many of the Stones, and, to the Shame of the Repairers, many *Roman* Inscriptions, some sawn across, to fit the Size of the Place. The Level of the City is risen to the Top of the first Walls, through the Negligence of the Magistracy, who, in this, and most other great Towns, connive at the Servants throwing Dirt and Ashes into the Streets. These Walls inclose but a small Compass, of a pentagonal Form. There are Four Gates on Four Sides, and a Postern on the other. From the South-west Angle have been an additional Wall and Ditch carried out to the River; by which short Work, the Approach of an Enemy on Two Sides is intercepted, unless they pass the River. The small Compass of the City has made the Inhabitants crowd up the Streets to an unseemly and inconvenient Narrowness. It is, however, handsomely built, mostly of new Stone, which is very white and good. The great Additions made, and still making, to the Buildings here, I shall mention by-and-by.

It was of old a Resort for Cripples, and diseased Persons; and we see the Crutches hang up at the several Baths, as the Thank-offerings of those who came hither lame, and went away cured. But now we may say it is a Resort of the Sound, as well as the Sick, and a Place that helps the Indolent, and the Gay, to com-

mit that worst of Murders, that is to say, to *kill Time*.

To such it is indeed a constant Round of Diversion. In the Morning, the young Lady is brought in a close Chair, dressed in her Bathing-cloaths, to the *Cross-bath*. There the Music plays her into the Bath, and the Women who tend her, present her with a little floating wooden Dish, like a Bason; into which the Lady puts an Handkerchief and a Nosegay, and of late the Snuff-box is added. She then traverses the Bath, if a Novice, with a Guide; if otherwise, by herself; and having amused herself near an Hour, calls for her Chair, and returns to her Lodgings.

The rest of the Diversion is at *The Rooms*, as they are called: and perhaps Mr. *Leake*, who keeps one of the finest Booksellers Shops in *Europe*, has more than a Chance for half an Hour of each Person's Company now-and-then, and, to be sure, a Subscription, which is but Five Shillings the Season, for taking home what Book you please; but Persons of Quality generally subscribe Gold, and I think it is the very best Money laid out in the Place, for those who go for Pleasure or Amusement only. In the Afternoon there is frequently a Play, though the Decorations are mean, and indeed the Performances too. In the Evening, People assemble at the great Rooms; and there are Balls twice a Week. 'Tis also the Fashion of the Place, for the Company to go every Day pretty constantly to hear Divine Service at the Great Church, and at *St. Mary's Chapel in Queen's-square*, where are Prayers twice a Day.

'Tis remarkable, that, for many Hundreds of Years, the medicinal Virtues of these Waters have been useful to the diseased People, by Bathing only; whereas, of late Years, they are found to be no less healthful, in many Cases, taken inwardly; insomuch that more come to drink than to bathe; nor are the Cures they perform this way less valuable than the outward Application.

Gaming used to obtain here, as at all public Places, to a scandalous Degree; but the Act prohibiting that pernicious Practice has a good deal checked its Progress. This Act passed in the 12th of King *George II.* and suppresses, on the Penalty of 200 *l.* and 50 *l.* the Adventures, the following Games by Name; viz. *The Ace of Hearts, Pharaoh, Basset, Hazard*; also all *Sales, Raffles, Lotteries, Mathematical Machines, &c.* *Sales by Lotteries* are declared void, and what is put up by them forfeited; nor are Convictions to be vacated for want of Form.

But this Act being eluded by new Games set up, a Clause was inserted in the *Horse-racing Act, Anno 13 Geo. II.* prohibiting *Passage*, and all other Games with Dice, except what are played on the *Backgammon Tables*.

As to the more particular Nature and Virtues of the Waters, I have been favoured, by a very eminent Physician, with the following curious Account of them, and their Original.

Of BATH Waters.

The *Bath Waters* certainly owe their Original to a Mixture and Fermentation of Two different Sources, distilling from the Tops of Two different Mountains (*Claverton* and *Lansdown*), meeting in the Valley where the Town stands; for all Hills are Nests of Metals or Minerals, and their Bellies are cavernous and hollow. It is not therefore improbable, that on *Claverton-Down* there should lie the sulphureous Matter, which must rise by Impregnation from that excellent Stone arising in several Parts of the Mountain, which hardens in the Air, and grows cased with a nitrous Coat by Time, and cold Weather; and is so readily cut out and carved into the most exquisite Shapes. This is the Property of the worthy, charitable, and pious *Ralph Allen, Esq;* For all Mineral Waters owe their Virtue to an Impregnation of Rain-water, generated from the

the Clouds, which are compreffed in their Courſe by Mountains or Eminences, and fall on the reſpective included Mineral. And every one knows, that a due Mixture of Sulphur, and Filings of Iron, moiſtened with Water, will produce any Degree of Heat. This Stone therefore muſt have a large Quantity of ſulphureous or bituminous Matter in its Compoſition, as will be evident to a Natural Philoſopher, from theſe mentioned Qualities. Neither is it improbable, that the ferruginous or iron-tinctured Water takes its Riſe from *Laſſdown*; the Stone on it being hard, and, on the Top, flinty, black, and acrimonious, as Iron Ore is known to be. Theſe Two Mountains, thus tinged by Rain Water falling from the proper Heights, meet in ſome Caverns in the Valley; and, there fermenting, produce that hot, milky, ſoft, ſalutiferous Beverage, called *Bath Water*, far beyond any hot Mineral Waters for its Delicacy, and ſupportable, though comfortable, Heat, to any other ſuch Water hitherto diſcovered on the habitable Globe, as it poſſeſſes that Milkineſs, Detergency, and middling Heat, ſo friendly adapted to weakened animal Conſtitutions, which all other hot Waters want in the due Degree; either being too hot, or too cold, to do any great Good in Caſes where they are proper. Theſe Waters are beneficial in almoſt all chronical Diſtempers, and can hurt in none, except in Hemorrhages, Inflammations, or bad Lungs, unleſs they be over-doled in Quantity, or too high and too hot a Regimen be joined with them; for they always procure a great Appetite, and good Spirits, if cautiously managed; but if high Meats, and ſtrong Liquors, be indulged, they will create inflammatory Diſorders. However, in weak Stomachs, decayed Appetites, Colics, low Spirits, in the Intervals of the Fits of the Gout and Stone, in Rhenmatiſms, Palfies, Nervous Diſorders; and, in a word, all thoſe called the cold Diſeaſes; but moſt eminently, in all the Diſorders of the chyliſerous Tube, or the Stomach and Belly not inflamed;

inflamed; they are more kindly and beneficial than any Medicine known in Nature; and introduce a natural Warmth, and a new internal Heat, into decayed worn-out, superannuated Constitutions; and if a light Regimen, due Exercise, and good Hours, be joined with them, they would truly work Wonders: but, by the Neglect of these, their Efficacy is often lost, and their Credit brought into Question.

Great Additions have been made to the Building within these few Years; particularly by the late Duke of Chandos, and the late Mr. Thayer, one of the Commissioners of the Excise.

Without the Walls, a stately new Square is erected with a fine Chapel; and the Middle is inclosed by Rails and handsomely laid out within.

In the Centre is a lofty Obelisk 70 Feet high from the Foundation, and terminated in a Point. Level with one's Eyes is the inclosed Inscription:

IN MEMORY
OF HONOUR BESTOW'D,
AND IN GRATITUDE
FOR BENEFITS CONFERR'D
IN THIS CITY,
BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
FREDERICK
PRINCE OF WALES,
AND HIS ROYAL CONSORT,
IN THE YEAR M.DCC.XXXVIII.
THIS OBELISK IS ERECTED,
BY RICHARD NASH, Esq;

The Bath-stone, which I have mentioned before affords a fine Opportunity to embellish and give noble Look to the Buildings here, and at a very cheap Rate; for the Front of the Houses on the North-side of the Square cost no more than 500 £. the

it is above 200 Feet in Extent, and enriched with Columns and Pilasters in the *Corinthian Order*. All the Danger is, that they will over-build themselves, now they are got into the Humour, and make it less worth while to those who lett Lodgings, the principal Business of the Place; but then People of Fortune, settling there, will make amends for it; since no less than 70 or 80 Families are already become constant Inhabitants, and others are daily taking Houses.

The Grove, too, near the Abbey-church, now called *Orange-square*, in Compliment to the late Prince of Orange, has several handsome new-built Houses; and a monumental Stone is erected, with an Inscription in Honour to the Prince of *Orange*, and the Place; his Highness having been obliged to visit *Bath* for his Health, just before he married the Princess Royal of *England*, and received great Benefit by the Waters. This likewise was erected by the famous Mr. *Nash*, to whose good Management and Behaviour, *Bath* is greatly indebted; every one submitting with Delight to the Regulations he imposes, with regard to Decorum, and the good Order of the Place.

The Inscription on the Stone above is as follows:

IN MEMORIAM
SANITATIS
PRINCIPI AURIACO,
AQUARUM THERMALIUM POTU,
FAVENTE DEO,
OVANTE BRITANNIA,
FELICITER RESTITUTÆ.
M.DCC.XXXV.

Thus translated:

In Memory of the happy Restoration of the Health of the Prince of *Orange*, by the drinking of the *Bath Waters*, thro' the Favour of GOD, and to the extreme Joy of *Britain*, 1735.

The

The late Marshal *Wade*, when one of the Representatives in Parliament for this City, gave a fine Altar-piece to the great Church there: he was also at the Charge of having the Picture drawn of every one of his Electors (the Members of the Corporation), and set up round the Town-hall; and his own too he suffered to be put up over the Entrance, as if he would make good that Pass, and keep them all to *Duty*. At the upper End of the Hall, are lately set up the Pictures of the late Prince and *Augusta* Princess of *Wales*, a Present by their Royal Highnesses to the Corporation, who likewise before presented it with a fine large wrought Silver Cup and Waiter, gilt.

There is a very great Narrowness of Spirit in most of the Inhabitants at *Bath*: but, indeed, it is the same in most public Places of Resort. They have but their *Seasons*; and they are so hungry by that time they come about, that they look upon a new Comer, as a Person to be *shared* and *divided* among them: for this Reason, you'll always find them with *both* Hands open to receive; and not *one* to communicate, or do a generous Office, without a Benefit in *Possession* or *Reversion*. And when they receive a Favour at your Hands, 'tis with such an Air, as if it were their *Due*, and they quitted Scores with you by their Acceptance of it.

The *Abbey-church* is a venerable Pile, and has many Monuments in it. But the principal Front is almost blasphemously decorated, if it may be called decorated with the Figures of God the Father, and Saints and Angels, the Work of Superstition. This Cathedral though beautiful, is but small; and on the same Spot probably stood the *Roman* Temple of *Minerva*, Patroness of the Baths: Before it, was an handsome square Area, but of late Years deformed with Houses.

On the South-side are the justly renowned hot Springs, collected into a square Area, called *The King's Bath*. The Corporation erected within these few

Years

Years that pretty neat Building before it, called *The Pump-room*, for the Company to meet in, who drink the Water, conveyed hither by a Marble Pump from the Bottom of the Spring, where it is near boiling-hot.

This Water is admirably grateful to the Stomach, striking the Roof of the Mouth with a fine sulphureous and steely Taste, like that of the *German Spaw* or *Pyrmont*. Tho' you drink off a large Pint-glass, it is so far from creating an Heaviness or Nausea, that you immediately perceive yourself more alert. At first, it operates by Stool, and especially Urine. It is of sovereign Efficacy to strengthen the Bowels, restore their lost Tone, and renew the vital Heat. But I have already mentioned its excellent Qualities.

The King's Bath is an oblong Square, the Walls full of Niches, perhaps the *Romans* Work. There are Twelve on the North-side, Eight on the East and West, about Four larger Arches on the South. At every Corner are the Steps to descend into it, and a Parapet, or Balustrade, with a Walk round it.

The Springs were doubtless separated from common springs by the *Romans*, and fenced in with a durable Wall. There goes a probable Tradition of subterranean Canals, of their making, to carry off the other Waters, lest they should mix with these, and destroy the Heat.

It is remarkable, that, at the cleansing of the Springs, when they set down a new Pump, they constantly find great Quantities of Hazel-nuts, as in many other Places among subterraneous Timber. These, Dr. *Stukely* doubts not, are the Remainder of the universal Deluge, which the *Hebrew* Historian tells us was in Autumn, Providence by that means securing the Revival of the vegetable World.

In the Bath, People stand up to the Chin, Men and Women, and stew; mostly in the way of Gallantry.

Many

Many are the Diseases which here find a Remedy when judiciously applied, as I observed above. The Confluence hither is greater in Summer, than in Winter, tho' the latter, of the Two, seems the more preferable Season for medicinal Purposes.

Behind the Southern Wall of *The King's Bath*, is : less Square, named *The Queen's Bath*, with a Tabernacle of Four Pillars in the midst. This is of more temperate Warmth, as borrowing its Water from the other. There are likewise Pumps and Pumping-rooms, for pouring hot Streams on any Part of the Body ; which in many Cases is very salutary.

In the South-west Part of the Town are Two other Baths, not to be disregarded.

The Hot Bath is not much inferior in Heat to *The King's Bath* ; it is a small Parallelogram, with a Stone Tabernacle of Four Pillars in the midst.

The Cross Bath near it is triangular, and has a Cross in the middle. Hard by is an Hospital, built and endowed by a Prelate of this See. The Water in the Two Places rises near the Level of the Streets.

On the South-side of the Cathedral, are some Part of the Abbey left, and the Gate-house belonging to it.

Within these few Years, by a Contribution, a cold Bath, for the Benefit of the Infirm, was made at a Spring beyond the Bridge.

Two *Roman* Inscriptions have been set in the Eastern Wall of the Cathedral, fronting the Walks ; which besides the Injuries of the Weather, are exposed to the mischievous Sport of Boys, who throw Stones at them.

The several Baths are very indifferently kept, as the Use so much increases. But a fine Design is now on foot to make convenient Slips, with Dressing-rooms and Apartments for pumping on People, without going into the Bath, and for enlarging the Pump-room so as to hold Four or Five Pumps.

The greatest Decency is observed here by both Sexes ; and while Mr. *Nash* lives, it must be always so. The

is a very good Conveniency of Chairs, of which there are great Plenty, and very genteel ones, to go to any Part within the Walls, and even to the adjoining Buildings without, for 6 *d.* provided the Distance does not exceed 500 Yards; but if it does, the Fare is 1 *s.* and for this the Chairmen are obliged to go a Mile. In ſhort, it is a delightful Place enough, when you are in it, but formerly a dreadful one to come at, down high Hills, in ſome Places like Precipices; tho' Health or Pleaſure oblige People to diſpenſe with this Difficulty.

Bath being environed with Hills, and the River winding between them in the Middle of a rich Vale, the Meadows on each Side the Stream afford many pleaſant Walks; and, if you mount the Hills on Horſeback, *Lanſdown*, or rather *Mons Badonea*, *Claverton-Down*, which is Part of *Odin's-Down*, *Haul-Down*, *Bannagh-Down*, and *King's-Down*, are the moſt delightful Rides that can be conceived.

The Access to theſe Hills grows every Day better and better, by the Prudence and good Management of the Commiſſioners of the Turnpike-roads; ſo that, tho' few People cared to keep Coaches here formerly, yet the Uſe of thoſe Machines here has greatly increaſed of late Years. Before the firſt Turnpike-Act was obtained, the direct Road to *Lanſdown* was ſo ſteep, that Queen *Anne* was extremely frightened in going up: her Coachman ſtopping to give the Horſes Breath, and the Coach wanting a Dragſtaff, it ran back, in ſpite of all the Coachman's Skill; the Horſes not being brought to ſtrain the Harneſs again, or pull together, for a good while, and the Coach putting the Guards behind in great Confuſion; at laſt, ſome of the Servants, ſetting their Heads and Shoulders to the Wheels, ſtopped them by mere Force.

The General Hoſpital in this City, for the Reception of the ſick Poor all over the Kingdom, is a very noble Deſign. The firſt Stone of it was laid the 6th of *July*.

1738. It is built where the old Play-house stood, and is a noble Pile of Building, 100 Feet in Front, and 60 Feet deep. It is capable of receiving 150 poor Cripples.

The King, the late Prince and Princess-Dowager of *Wales*, and some of the Princesses, have been great Promoters of this Work: and, among other Benefactors, the Widow of the late Mr. *Holding* of *London*, and Mr. *Allen* of *Prior-Park* near *Bath*, of whom I shall say more anon, are the chief; the former giving 2000*l.* in Money, and the latter permitting the Trustees of the Charity to fetch from his Stone-yard all the Wall-stone wrought Free-stone, Paving-stone, and Lime, that were necessary to be added to the Stone which the old Buildings, that were taken down, produced, to complete the Masons-work of the new Edifice, besides giving a very large Sum of Money.

A very great Design was also begun in this City, which take the following Account, as it some Years ago appeared in the public Papers.

On the 10th of *March* 1739-40. the first Stone of a new Square was laid, in the Gardens adjoining the public Walks. The principal Side of this Square is to have the Appearance of one House, 520 Feet Front, and 260 Feet in Depth, but is to be divided into 40 Houses; each Front is to have 63 Windows, and each End 31. Two of the other Sides are to serve as Wings to the principal Side: each Wing is to contain 24 Houses, upon a perfect Square of 210 Feet, and the Front of these Wings are every one to have 25 Windows; so that when the whole Building is viewed from the Front, it will shew 113 Windows, extend 1040 Feet, and from the distant Hills look like one grand Palace. The Three Piles of Building will be adorned with above 300 Columns and Pilasters in the *Corinthian* Order. Upon the Corner of every Pile there will be a Tower, and in every Front will be a Centre-house, and a Pavement.

A noble House for public Assemblies is to be erected by Subscription in this Square; the Ball-room will be like an *Egyptian Hall*, and contain in Length 90 Feet, and Breadth 52 Feet. The Assembly-room will be 90 Feet long. There will be a Garden for the Ladies to walk in; a Bowling-green for the Gentlemen; a grand Parade of 200 Yards long, a Terrace 500 Yards in Circumference, a Portico of the same Dimensions, with divers other Walks in common for all People, and so disposed, that Gentlemen and Ladies may walk at any Season of the Year, at any Hour of the Day, and in any Weather. So that, by these great Improvements, *Bath* will be rendered one of the most agreeable Places in the World; for, facing this Square, a Bridge with an Arch of 102 Feet Opening will be built over the River, by which People of Distinction may go to the Downs, as into their own Gardens, for the Air, and Exercise.

The political Government of *Bath* is in the Hands of a Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-council. It has Two Fairs, which are held *Feb. 3.* and on the Festival of *St. Peter*; and it sends Two Members to Parliament.

The grand Parade was long since finished, as well as Part of the great Terrace; and both are united by Two Streets, each of which is 210 Feet in Length by 50 in Breadth. These Walks and Streets have been raised upon Arches from 24 to 40 Feet high; and the Buildings fronting them begin to make the Glory of *Bath*, in the Works of Architecture. The Area, which the great Terrace is to surround, is named *the Royal Forum*, because *Agricola*, the Roman General in *Britain*, built a Forum in the same Spot of Ground in the Reign of *Titus Vespasian*; and, from that Work, the Region round about the hot Springs was, in succeeding Ages, denominated *the Hundred of Bath Forum*. The Magnificence of the *Royal Forum*, or grand Place of Assembly at *Bath*, may be conceived from the Works already done;

done ; and, if it should be completed according to the Designs, the City will undoubtedly become the finest and most agreeable Place of Habitation in the Kingdom.

The *Avon* will divide the *Royal Forum* into Two Parts ; and, on the Banks of that River, contiguous to the new Buildings, Mr. *Allen*, who for many Years past has farmed, and been improving, the Cross-ports, has a large Yard, wherein is wrought the Free-stone due from the Quarries on *Comb-Down*, which is another Part of *Odin's-Down*, purchased by him some Years ago. He has likewise a Wharf to embark the same Stone in unwrought Blocks, which are brought down from the Quarry by an admirable Machine, that runs upon a Frame of Timber, of about a Mile and an half in Length, placed partly upon Walls, and partly upon the Ground, like the Waggon-ways belonging to the Collieries in the North of *England*. Two Horses draw one of these Machines, generally loaded with Two or Three Ton of Stone, over the most easy Part of the Descent ; but afterwards its own Velocity forces down the rest, and with so much Precipitation, that the Man who guides it is sometimes obliged to lock every Wheel of the Carriage, to stop it ; which he can do with great Ease, by means of Bolts applied to the Front-wheels, and Lavers to the Back-wheels.

This Machine and Frame were the Works of the late Mr. *John Padmore* of *Bristol* ; and his Performance in them, as well as in the Cranes with which the Stone is hoisted up, is such an Improvement upon the Waggon-ways and Carriages in the North, and upon Cranes in general, as does Honour to his Name.

The Free-stone of the Hills about *Bath* can be carried by the *Avon* to *Bristol* ; whence it may be transported to any Part of *England* ; and the new Works of *St. Bartholomew's Hospital* in *London*, as well as the Exchange of *Bristol*, are built with Stone from Mr. *Allen's Quarry*.

Th

This Gentleman has built for himself a very magnificent Seat ; and has placed it almost at the Top of the side of the Hill, where the chief Quarry, from whence the new Buildings of *Bath* have been supplied with Free-stone, is situated. The Seat crowns with the greatest Beauty a large Court on the North-side of the Mountain, antiently dedicated to the *British* God of War ; and, from that Dent in the Ascent of the Hill, the Village towards the lower Part of it was denominated *Vidcomb*, in which there is a capital House belonging to Mr. Bennet.

Mr. Allen's Seat, now called *Prior-Park*, commands a Prospect, as delightful as it is possible for the Imagination to conceive ; the City of *Bath* being the chief Object ; and towards it the principal Front of the House is turned. The Seat consists of an House in the Centre, Two Pavilions, and Two Wings of Offices, all united by Arcades, and making a continued curved Line of Building of above 1000 Feet in Front, of which the House takes about 150 Feet, and is of the *Corinthian* Order, elevated upon a Rustic Basement, and crowned with a Balustrade ; the Centre advancing forward, and making one of the largest and most correct *ectastyle* Porticoes in the Kingdom. The Order includes Two Stories, and the House has 15 Windows in the Length of it. The Portico, together with a *Corinthian* Hall in the principal Story, a Chapel on the same Floor of the *Ionic* Order supporting the *Corinthian*, and a *Corinthian* Gallery extending over the Hall, and the Rooms on each Side of it, all finished with Free-stone, are the Beauties and Curiosities of the whole pile, which, from the North Terrace of the *Royal Forum* in *Bath*, appears with very great Advantage on the side of the Mountain, against which it is placed.

The Gardens to this Seat consist of Two Terraces, and Two Slopes, lying Northward before the House, with winding Walks made through a little Coppice opening to the Westward of those Slopes ; but all these

are adorned with Vases, and other Ornaments, in Stone-work; and the Affluence of Water is so great, that it is received at Three different Places, after many little agreeable Falls, at the Head of one of which there is a Statue of *Moses* down to the Knees, in an Attitude expressive of the Admiration he must have been in after striking the Rock, and seeing the Water gush out of it. The winding Walks were made with great Labour and, tho' no broader than for Two or Three to walk abreast, yet in some Places they appear with little Cliffs on one Side, and with small Precipices on the other. These things we may esteem as Beauties; but if we leave them, and go to what may be called the greatest Part of the Gardens, I mean to the Rides which are made through the adjoining Lands, the real Beauties of Nature will appear in great Abundance; and Mr. *Alley* may put the natural Terrace in the Brow of the Hill above his House in Competition with the greatest Work that ever was made to adorn a Seat; and on that Terrace the Statue of the late Marshal *Wade* is placed: for where could the Figure of a great Soldier stand so properly, as on an Hill sacred to the God of War himself?

The Taste of this Gentleman, in his Gardening &c. is so aptly described by the late Mrs. *Chandler*, of the Place, in an ingenious Poem, called, *The Description of BATH*, that the following Quotation from it must be acceptable:

*Thy Taste refin'd appears in yonder Wood,
Not Nature tortur'd, but by Art improv'd;
Where cover'd Walks with open Vista's meet,
An Area here, and there a shady Seat.
A thousand Sweets in mingled Odours flow
From blooming Flow'rs, which on the Borders grow.
In num'rous Streams the murm'ring Waters thrill,
Uniting all, obedient to thy Will;*

*Till, by thy Art, in one Canal combin'd,
 They thro' the Wood in various Mazes wind;
 From thence the foaming Waves fall rapid down,
 In bold Cascades, and lash the rugged Stone.
 But, here their Fury lost, the calmer Scene
 Delights the softer Muse, and Soul serene:
 An ample Basin, Centre of the Place,
 In Lymph transparent holds the scaly Race;
 Its glassy Face, from ev'ry Ruffle free,
 Reflects the Image of each neighb'ring Tree;
 On which the feather'd Choir's melodious Throng,
 By Love inspir'd, unite in tuneful Song;
 Their tuneful Song the echoing Woods resound,
 And falling Waters add a solemn Sound:
 Sure this the Muses haunt; 'tis hallow'd Ground!*

At *Walcot*, many Roman Antiquities have been found. Lord *Winchelsea* has an Urn, a Patera, and other things taken out of a Stone Coffin, wherein was a Child's Body, half a Mile off the *Bath*.

When one is upon *Lansdown*, and has passed, by a winding Road, all the Steeps and Difficulties of the Ascent, there is a plain and pleasant Country for many Miles into *Gloucestershire*, and Two very noble Houses: the one built by Mr. *Blaitwait*, Secretary at War in the Reign of Queen *Anne*; and the other is called *Badmington*, a Mansion of the Duke of *Beaufort*.

Nor must we forget to mention the handsome Monument erected, by Order of the late Lord *Lansdown*, to the Honour of Sir *Bevil Granville*, his Lordship's Ancestor, with an Inscription recording the Action in which he fell. It is built on the Brow of *Lansdown-Hill*, on the very Spot, as near as possible, where that brave Gentleman was killed, in the Action between him and Sir *William Waller*, in the Civil Wars; of which Lord *Clarendon*, and others, give Account.

Just below it, we see *Lilliput-Castle*, a small Place of Retirement, lately made by Mr. *Ferry Pierce*;

beautiful in itself, but much more so in respect to its Situation.

I ought not to omit, that, in the Session of Parliament 1738-9. an Act passed for enlarging the Terms and Powers granted by Two former Acts of Parliament, for repairing and enlarging the Highways between the Top of *Kingsdown-Hill* and the City of *Bath*; and for amending several other Roads leading from *Bristol*, and other Places, to *Bath*; and for *cleansing, paving, and enlightening* the STREETS, and regulating the CHAIRMEN there; and for keeping a regular nightly WATCH, within the said City and Liberties: all which, being effected according to the Intention of the Act, will be a great Conveniency to *Bath*, and to Persons resorting to it.

1685. *De foe* I will just mention also, that, at *Philips-Norton-lane*, near *Bath*, was a Fight between the Forces of King *James II.* and those of the Duke of *Monmouth*, in which the latter had the Advantage, and, if they had pursued it, would have gained a complete Victory. An old Elm-tree, standing near *Stanton-Drew*, about Eight Miles Westward of *Bath*, in a Road leading Three Ways, afforded a sad Testimony of the Event of the Duke's Enterprize; for it was all overspread with the Heads and Limbs of the unfortunate Persons engaged in his Cause, who suffered by the Sentence of the merciless *Jefferies*.

De foe This is the *Stanton-Drew*, where the *Druic* *herpes* *apodical* Temple, Vol. I. p. 382. is situated: and, by the brief Account which Mr. *Wood* gives of it, in his Essay towards a Description of *Bath*, and the *British* Works in its Neighbourhood, it appears to be a stupendous Model of the *Pythagorean* System of the planetary World, built with great Blocks of Marble taken out of *Clay-hole* near *Wells*. Three Circles, representing the Sun, the Earth, and the Moon; and some other Stones, representing the Planets *Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn*; are yet remaining: and the

the Author concludes, that the Circles imaging the Sun and Moon were made uſe of as Temples, in Honour of thoſe Luminaries ; the leaſt of which Temples is as big as *Stonehenge*.

About *Twyfordton*, not far from *Bath*, is a Field, called *Marſbury-field*, with but little Quantity of Earth upon the Rock. This was very full of foſſile Shells, which had preſerved their natural Colour of Blue and White as perfectly as at firſt.

In *Chu* Pariſh, a Mile from *Stanton-Drew*, is *Bow-ditch*, ſo called from its circular Form ; it was a large Camp on an Hill, trebly fortified, whence you may behold the Iſles of *Flatholm* and *Steepholm* in the Sea. Here is a petrefying Spring. This County abounds with Coal-pits. The Slates, which lie upon it, and have not received their due Quantity of Sulphur, ſo as to make perfect Coal, are moſt curiouſly marked with Impreſſions of Plants, particularly thoſe of Fern. This is indeed a Rock, full of Springs, a very bad Road for Travelling, conſiſting of ſhort and ſteep Valleys, narrow Lanes, intricate, dark, and hard. The Ground is very rich, and bears much Wood. The Neatneſs of the Houſes, even of the poorer Sort of People, is remarkable, being generally whited over, and embelliſhed with little Gardens.

We come in Six Miles from *Bath* to *Cainſham*, a Market-town, famous for its Abbey, founded by *William* Earl of *Glouceſter*, about the Year 1170. and granted by *Edward VI.* to *Thomas Bridges*, Eſq; in the Year 1553. as well as for its having been the Manſion or capital Seat of the *Cangi*, as *Camden* interprets the Name. The Town is ſituated by the Side of a ſmall River, that runs into the *Avon*, and extends to the Confluence of the Two Streams. It is built upon a Rock, productive of an infinite Number of Foſſils in the Shape of Serpents, coiled up like a Rope ; and credulous People formerly believed, that they were real Serpents, changed into Stones by one *Keina*, a de-

vout *British* Virgin, from whom they likewise denominated the Town.

Cainsbam River is noted for producing Multitudes of little Eels in the Spring of the Year: these the People catch, when they are about Two Inches long; and, having boiled them, they make them into small Cakes, for Sale. These Elver-cakes they dispose of at *Bath* and *Bristol*; and, when they are fried, and eaten with Butter, nothing is more delicious.

The City of *Bristol* is no more than Four Miles from this Town; and is the greatest, the richest, and the best Port of Trade in *Great Britain*, *London* only excepted.

Bristol has been formerly a Place of Strength, and had a Castle, in which King *Stephen* was kept Prisoner some time by *Maud* the Empress. It was besieged in the Civil Wars, and made a good Defence.

The Castle, built by *Robert*, illegitimate Son of King *Henry I.* who besieged King *Stephen* in it, stood till the Time of *Oliver Cromwell*, who demolished it.

It is a County-town, and one of King *Henry* the Eighth's new Bishopricks.

The Merchants of this City have not only the greatest Trade, but they trade with a more intire Independency upon *London*, than any other Town in *Britain*. And 'tis evident in this Particular; viz. That whatsoever Exportations they make to any Part of the World, they are able to bring the full Returns back to their own Port, and can dispose of them there; which is not the Case of any other Port in *England*; where they are often obliged either to ship Part of the Effects in the Ports abroad, on the Ships bound to *London*; or to consign their own Vessels to *London*, in order both to get Freight, and dispose of their Cargoes.

But the *Bristol* Merchants, as they have a very great Trade abroad, so they have always Buyers at home for their Returns, and such Buyers, that no Cargo is too big for them. To this Purpose, the Shopkeepers in
Bristol,

Bristol, who in general are Wholesale-men, have ſo great an Inland-trade among all the Western Counties, that they maintain Carriers, juſt as the *London* Tradeſmen do, to all the principal Counties and Towns, from *Southampton* in the South, even to the Banks of the *Trent*, North; altho' they have no navigable River that Way.

Add to this, That, as well by Sea, as by the Navigation of Two great Rivers, the *Wye* and the *Severn*, they have the whole Trade of *South-Wales*, as it were, to themſelves, and the greateſt Part of that of *North-Wales*; and, as to their Trade to *Ireland*, it is prodigiouſly increaſed ſince the Revolution, notwithstanding the great Trade which of late the Merchants of *Liverpool* alſo drive with that Kingdom.

The greateſt Inconveniencies of *Bristol* are its Situation, its narrow Streets, and the Narrowneſs of its River: and we might mention alſo another *Narrow*; that is, the *Minds* of the Generality of its People; for the Merchants of *Bristol*, tho' very rich, are not like the Merchants of *London*: the latter may be ſaid (as of old of the Merchants of *Tyre*) to vie with the Princes of the Earth; whereas the former, being raiſed by good Fortune, and Prizes taken in the Wars, from Maſters of Ships, and blunt Tars, have imbibed the Manners of theſe rough Gentlemen ſo ſtrongly, that they tranſmit it to their Deſcendents, only with a little more of the Sordid, than is generally to be found among the *Britiſh* Sailors; and I would adviſe the rich ones among them, if they would be a little more polite and generous than they uſually are, to *travel*, but not out of *England* neither; I mean, only to *London* (that is, from the Second great Trading-town to the Firſt); and they will ſee Examples worth their Imitation, as well for princely Spirit, as upright and generous Dealings.

The Corporation being very tenacious in not admitting Perſons to trade in their Liberty, who are not Freemen, there are not ſo many new Buildings, and

Improvements of Streets, &c. at *Bristol*, as would otherwise be. As for the City itself, there is hardly room to set another House in it. The great Square, called *Queen's*, formerly the *Marsh*, where the Ground was subject to the Hazard of Inundations, is now so raised, that it is free from that Inconvenience: it is very handsomely built and inhabited, and a fine Equestrian Statue of King *William III.* erected in the Middle of it, done by the famous *Rysbrack*.

The Quay along the River *Frome* is very noble, and well filled with all Sorts of Merchandize; and an handsome Row of Houses fronts it. I was informed, when I was there last, that, in order to make the Back of this City, or Quay along the River *Avon*, more commodious than ever, the Corporation have purchased several Houses adjoining to the Backgate in order to pull them down, and make all flush, from the Conduit on the Back, clear round to the other Quay; which, when finished, will be one of the completest Harbours in *Europe*. The whole Quay is reckoned the longest in *England*. It has a Crane on it, the Workmanship of the late ingenious Mr. *Padmore*, mentioned p. 286. which is not to be equaled in *Europe*. The Merchants are greatly benefited by it, in the extraordinary Dispatch it gives to the discharging of their Ships.

Bristol High-Cross was erected in 1373. and, in succeeding Times, was adorned with the Statues of Four Kings, who had been Benefactors to the City. These faced the Four adjoining Streets; that of King *John*, Northward; King *Henry III.* Eastward; King *Edward III.* Westward; and King *Edward IV.* Southward. In 1633. it was taken down, enlarged, and raised higher; when Four other Statues were added; namely, King *Henry VI.* Eastward; Queen *Elizabeth*, Westward; King *James I.* Southward; and King *Charles I.* Northward. It was at the same time environed with Iron Palisadoes, gilded, and painted. Its Height 39 Feet 6 Inches.

College-green is deemed the healthiest Situation in the City.

There is erected within these few Years an Assembly-room, for Entertainment and Amusement of the Gay, as at other considerable Places; for Luxury must always follow Riches. It is an handsome Building, and stands in the Way from the City to the *Hot-well*.

The old Theatre at *Stokes-croft* is also altered into a commodious Room for an Assembly, which is held every *Tuesday* during the Winter.

On *Aug. 25. 1747.* happened here a violent Storm of Thunder, Lightning, and Rain; and, what was very surprising, the Bushes on the Hill behind the Houses at the Lime-kiln, leading to the *Hot-well*, were seen to be suddenly on fire; and continued burning after the Storm, though it rained violently. It is supposed they were set on fire by the Lightning, which rushed down in a wonderful manner. The Northern Meteor was extraordinarily luminous, sending forth its swift Coruscations of pale Light, which seemed to rise from the Horizon in a pyramidical, undulating Form, striking with great Velocity up the Zenith.

There were, when I was at *Bristol*, no less than Fifteen Glass-houses in it; which is more than are in the City of *London*: they use indeed, themselves, a very great Number of Glass Bottles, which they send filled with Beer, Cyder, and Wine, to the *West-Indies*, much more than goes from *London*; also vast Numbers of Bottles are now used for sending the Water of *St. Vincent's Rock*, not only all over *England*, but, we may say, all over the World.

This *Hot-well*, or Water of *St. Vincent's Rock*, is Two Miles without the City, a Mile below the Confluence of the Two little Rivers, and on the North-side of the Stream of the *Avon*. Not many Years since, this Spring lay open at the Foot of the Rock, and was covered by the Salt-water at every Tide; and yet it preserved both its Warmth and Virtue intire.

The Rock, though hard to Admiration, has since that been worked down, partly by Labour, and partly blown in Pieces by Gunpowder; and an handsome large House is built upon it, where they have good Apartments for entertaining distempered Persons. The Well is secured, and a good Pump is fixed in it, so that they have the Water pure and unmixed from the Spring itself, and they export vast Quantities; for this Water keeps its Virtue better than that of *Bath*.

The following curious Account of the *Bristol Waters* I am indebted for to the same eminent Physician, who favoured me with the learned Account of the Nature and Efficacy of the *Bath* and *Tunbridge Waters*:

‘The *Bristol Waters*,’ says he, seem only a natural Lime-water, or pure Element impregnated with a natural unburnt Lime-stone. All the Hills and Mountains round that Water are nothing but a Quarry of that natural unburnt Lime-stone, which is daily dug up there for Building, and manifests itself to the Senses. This makes these *Bristol Waters* one of the purest, best, and most salutary, mere aqueous Elements on the Globe, to cool all overheated Bowels, and to lessen all preternatural Discharges. But the small Milk-warmth in them, when immediately pumped up, upon the Well’s being drained of the Influx of the Tide, shews there is some other Principle in them besides natural Lime-stone: and that in Nature can be no other than some weak Impregnation of Sulphur with Nitre or Sea-salt, or perhaps a slight Touch of Iron: The Stones are some redish, some blackish, that are digged out of the Mountains circumjacent, but all of them natural Lime-stone. These redish and blackish Colours in the Stones necessarily imply Sulphur and Iron; and these Three Principles, by chemical Processes and Mixtures, are discovered in some small Proportion in the Waters. They are excellent in all scorbutic and nervous Atrophies, in Hectics, weak Lungs, all Inflammations in what-
ever

‘ ever Part; all preternatural Evacuations ; in ſhort,
 ‘ in all acrid Juices, and viſcid Blood ; being a natural
 ‘ ſimple *Alcali* ; and in the firſt Stages of a *Phthiſis*
 ‘ *Pulmonum* ; and if early had recourſe to, and long
 ‘ continued, under a low, cooling, nutritive Regimen,
 ‘ they would probably ſtop the Growth and Cauſes of
 ‘ moſt chronical Diſtempers.’

A little farther than the Wells, are a fine Dock, capable of containing 150 Ships, and a Baſin ; but the largeſt Ships lie moſtly at *Hung-Road*, Four Miles below the City.

There are 17 Pariſhes in the City, but 19 Churches, including the Cathedral, and the Church of *St. Mark*. There are, beſides thoſe Churches, ſeveral Meeting-houſes for the different Sectaries ; viz. Independents, Quakers, and Baptiſts.

The Cathedral is far from extraordinary.

Several of the Churches are very neat, beautifully decorated, and worthy a Traveller’s Attention. That of *St. Mary Radcliffe*, or *Redcliffe*, is a noble and ſtately Edifice. It is very large and ſpacious, and has a fine Steeple or Tower.

In it is a very antient Monument for Mr. *William Cannings*, Burgeſs and Merchant of *Briſtol*, the Founder of the Church, and a great Benefactor otherwiſe to the City of *Briſtol*.

On one Part of the Monument is a *Latin* Inſcription, full of Abbreviations ; and, on the other Side, in *Engliſh*, an Inſcription to his Praise, which I have not room to inſert.

Here is alſo an Inſcription on the Monument of Sir *William Penn*, Knt. Vice-Admiral of *England*, the Father of the great *William Penn*, one of the Heads of the Quakers, who was a Native of the City of *Briſtol*.

In the Seſſion of Parliament, held 1750-51. an Act was paſſed for dividing the Pariſh of *St. Philip and Jacob*, in the County of Glouceſter, and in the City and

County of Bristol; and for erecting a Church in the new-intended Parish: the Preamble to which recites, That the Inhabitants of that Part of the Forest of *King's-wood*, which lies in the above Parish, were so numerous, that the Church was not large enough to contain them: and, in order to promote the new-intended Erection, *Thomas Chester*, Esq; Lord of Part of the Manor of *King's-wood*, proposed to grant a Piece of Ground; and the present Lord Bishop of *Durham*, late of *Bristol*, to give 400 *l.* towards the Maintenance of the new Vicar, besides another 400 *l.* to be obtained from the Governors of *Queen Anne's Bounty*, for the same good Purposes.

This Act has been accordingly carried into Execution for, on *Tuesday March 3. 1752.* *David Pelloquin*, Esq; the Mayor, together with the Aldermen, and several others of the Commissioners appointed for building the new Church, went in Coaches to the Spot of Ground marked out for that Purpose, and laid the Foundation-stone, under which were put several Pieces of his present Majesty's Coin; and on the upper Stone was the following Inscription:

*Templum hoc,
 Dei Opt. Max. Gloriæ,
 Et Hominum indies peccantium Saluti,
 Sacrum,
 Erigi voluit Pietas publica.
 Absit tamen,
 Quod inter ignota Nomina
 Reverendi admodum in Christo Patris
 JOSEPHI BUTLER,
 Nuper BRISTOLIENSIS Episcopi,
 Lateat Nomen!
 D. D. D. 400 l.
 Jam tum ad Dunelmenses migraturus.*

The public Piety ordained this Church to be erected, sacred to the Glory of GOD All-mighty and All-gracious, and to the Salvation of daily Sinners. Yet far be it from us to conceal, among obscure Names, that of the Right Reverend Father in *Christ*, JOSEPH BUTLER, late Bishop of *Bristol*! Who consecrated to this pious Use, 400 *l.* on the point of his Translation to the See of *Durham*.

The Inscription on the lower Stone runs thus:

Regnante GEORGIO *Secundo*,
Iusto, Clementi, Forti,
Angularem hunc Lapidem,
 5 Non. Mart. 1752.

Posuit

David Pelloquin, *Civitatis Bristol. Prætor.*

In the Reign of GEORGE the Second, the Just, the Gracious, and the Valiant, *David Pelloquin*, Mayor of the City of *Bristol*, deposited this Corner-stone, on the 3d of *March* 1752.

The Government of *Bristol* is administered by a Mayor and 12 Aldermen, of which the Recorder is always one, Two Sheriffs, and 28 Common-councilmen.

A great Face of Seriousness and Religion appears at *Bristol*; and the Magistrates are laudably strict in exacting the Observation of the Sabbath, considering the general Dissoluteness that has broken in almost everywhere else.

For one thing they deserve high Commendation; and that is, the Neatness observed in keeping their Churches, and the Care they take in preserving the Monuments and Inscriptions of those buried in them. A Practice scandalously neglected almost every-where else in *England*, and even at Places we might mention, where

Money (another scandalous Practice) is exacted for seeing them. This Care of the Monuments of the Dead brings many Visitors to their Churches of traveling Strangers, who are always pleased with it, and make Comparisons in its Favour, though very little to the Credit of some others, who are more negligent. 'Tis indeed strange, that the Heirs and Families of the Deceased should not think themselves more concerned, than they generally are, to keep up the Monuments of their Ancestors. With great Piety, and at a large Expence, the next Heir, or the most obliged, rears a Monument to the Deceased; and it is dedicated, too, professedly, to Posterity. In a very little while, the Monument is covered with Dust and Cobwebs, and the Inscription often effaced. Common Decency does not succeed to this Piety, and it becomes a Monument of the Ingratitude or Neglect of the Survivors, rather than an Honour to the Deceased.

Methinks Vanity alone, the common Inducement of these Erections, should inspire another Manner of Acting. I cannot account for it any other way, but that, from the Prince to the Peasant, as a Family generally lies together in one Vault or Tomb, very few are willing to see or think of their Coffins; and hence it is, that some Men often look upon their very Heirs as *Memento Mori's*. Unhappy Narrowness of Mind, equally to be lamented and despised!

Bristol is supposed to have 9000 Houses, and 70,000 Inhabitants, in the City, and within Three Miles of its Circumference; and, they say, above 3000 Sail of Ships belong to that Port.

'Tis very remarkable, that this City is so well supplied with Coals, that though they are all brought by Land-carriage, yet they are generally laid down at the Doors of the Inhabitants, at Seven, Eight, or Nine Shillings *per* Chaldron.

The Situation of the City is low, but on the Side of a rising Hill. The Ground-plat of it is said very
much

much to reſemble that of old *Rome*, being circular, with a ſomething greater Diameter one Way than another, but not enough to make it oval; and the River cutting off one ſmall Part, as it were, a Sixth, or leſs, from the reſt.

The Bridge over the *Avon* is exceeding ſtrong, the Arches very high, becauſe of the Depth of Water, and the Buildings ſo cloſe upon it, that, in paſſing the Bridge, you ſee nothing but an intire full-built Street. The Tide of Flood riſes here near Six Fathom, and runs very ſtrong.

They draw all their heavy Goods here on *Sleds*, or *Sledges*, which they call *Gee-hoes*, without Wheels. This kills a Multitude of Horſes; and the Pavement is worn ſo ſmooth by them, that in wet Weather the Streets are very ſlippery, and in froſty Weather 'tis dangerous walking.

The noble Charities of Mr. *Edward Colſton*, a worthy Merchant of *Briſtol*, and his Foundations, are an Honour to the Place, and to the Memory of that excellent Man: and I am ſorry, that my narrow Limits will not permit me to give a particular Account of them.

But I ought not to omit, that one of his Charities only, coſt him 25,000 *l.* and that is the noble Hoſpital or Alms-houſe erected by him, in the Year 1691. upon his own Ground, on *St. Michael's-Hill*. The Front and Two Sides are faced with Freſtone: it contains a Chapel neatly adorned, 24 Apartments, and other Conveniences, for 12 Men, and 12 Women. The elder Brother receives 6 *s.* and each of the others 3 *s.* weekly, beſides an Allowance for Coal, &c. To a Clergyman is paid the Sum of 10 *l.* yearly, for reading the *Common Prayer* twice every Day, except when Prayers are read in *St. Michael's Church*, at which every Member of this Alms-houſe is to attend.

In the Year 1696. he alſo purchaſed a Piece of Ground in *Temple-ſtreet*, and built at his own Charge
a School

a School and Dwelling-house, for a Master to instruct 40 Boys, in Writing, Arithmetic, and the Church Catechism. The Boys are likewise to be cloathed.

His other Charities and Benefactions were without Number.

On *St. Peter's Day*, *June 29. 1738.* was opened, at the Mint, an Infirmary for this City, for the Reception of the sick, lame, and distressed Poor, after the Example of those in *London, Winchester, &c.* It is denominated *St. Peter's-Hospital*, and very liberal Contributions have been made to it; and particularly, we are told, that *John Elbridge, Esq;* Comptroller of the Customs in this City, who died *February 1738-9.* with many other charitable Donations, bequeathed 5000*l.* to this Infirmary, besides endowing a Charity-school on *St. Michael's-Hill*, which he built several Years before his Death, for educating and cloathing a certain Number of poor Girls.

Large Pieces of Ground having been cleared for building a magnificent Exchange, and proper Markets behind it; the former (which is called *The Tolzey*) to front Northward to *Corn-street*, and the latter to be entered principally from *High-street*; on the 10th of *March 1740-1.* the first Stone of the Work was laid by the Mayor, with great Ceremony, with several Pieces of Gold and Silver Coin under it, and this Inscription on the Stone:

*Regnante GEORGIO II. Pio, Felici, Augusto,
Libertatis & Rei Mercatoriae Domi Forisque
Vindice, primum Lapidem hujusce Aedificii,
Suffragio Civium, & Aere publico extructi, posuit
HENRICUS COMBE, Prætor, A. C. MDCCXL.*

That is,

In the Reign of *GEORGE II.* Pious, Prosperous, August, Protector, at Home and Abroad, of Liberty and Trade, *HENRY COMBE*, Mayor, placed

placed the first Stone of this Structure, erected by the Votes of the Citizens, and at the public Expence, *A. D.* 1740.

This Edifice was opened with greater Ceremony on the 23d of *September* 1743. and is esteemed the completest of its kind in *Europe*. The Architect of it having given the Public an ample Description of the Building, illustrated with the Plans, Elevations, and Sections of it, we must refer the Reader to that Book, which is sold by Mr. *Leak* in *Bath*, and Mr. *Hitch* in *London*, for Particulars; and in general only observe, that the Work, together with the Purchase of the Ground, and old Buildings destroyed, cost the Corporation near 50,000 *l.* a Work, which the whole City for Ages past endeavoured to get accomplished; and, when perfected so as to obtain the universal Approbation of Strangers, the Corporation had no sooner presented the trading Part of the City with the free Use of it, than the Body of the People shewed a greater Inclination to the common Street; where, to their Shame, and just Reproach, they now assemble, mixing themselves with the Refuse of the City, and looking like such as dare not appear in the Exchange among the most reputable Merchants: they stand exposed, like the Bankrupts expelled from the Exchanges in other Countries; and Foreigners, whose Curiosity leads them to *Bristol* to view the Building, often take them to be such. The City sends Two Members to Parliament.

The old Library in *King-street* is rebuilt in a very handsome Manner, as is also *Merchant-Taylors-Hall* in *Broad street*, a Freestone Building near 70 Feet long, and Breadth proportionable.

From hence I had Thoughts of coasting the Marshes or Border of *Wales*, especially *South-Wales*, by tracing the Rivers *Wye* and *Lug*, in *Monmouth* and *Herefordshire*: but changed my Mind on occasion of the Danger of the Ferries over the *Severn*. In the mean time,

time, I resolved to follow the Course of this famous River, by which I should necessarily see the richest, most fertile, and most agreeable Part of *England*, the Banks of the *Thames* only excepted.

From *Bristol*, West, you enter the County of *Gloucester*; and, keeping the *Avon* in View, you see *King-Road*, where the Ships generally take their Departure, as ours at *London* do from *Gravesend*, and *Hung-Road*; and where they notify their Arrival, as ours for *London* do in the *Downs*. The one lies within the *Avon*, the other in the *Severn Sea*. Indeed great Part of *Bristol* is in the Bounds of *Gloucestershire*, tho' it be a County of itself. From hence, going away a little North-west, we come to the *Pill*, a convenient Road for Shipping, and where therefore they generally run back for *Ireland*, or for *Wales*. There is also, a little farther, an ugly, dangerous, and very inconvenient Ferry over the *Severn*, to the Mouth of the *Wye*; namely, at *Aust*; which I shall mention again presently.

As we turn North towards *Gloucester*, we lose the Sight of the *Avon*, and, in about Two Miles, exchange it for an open View of the *Severn Sea*, which you see on the West-side, and which seems as broad as the Ocean there; except that there are Two small Islands in it, and that looking N. W. you discern plainly the Coast of *South-Wales*; and particularly, a little nearer hand, the Shore of *Monmouthshire*. Then, as you go on, the Shores begin to draw towards one another, and the Coasts to lie parallel; so that the *Severn* appears to be a plain River, or an *Æstuarium*, somewhat like the *Humber*, or as the *Thames* is at the *Nore*, being from Four to Five and Six Miles over; and is indeed a most raging and furious kind of Sea. This is occasioned by those violent Tides called the *Bore*, which flow here sometimes Six or Seven Feet at once, rolling forward like a mighty Wave, so that the Stern of a Vessel shall on a sudden be lifted up Six or Seven

Seven Feet upon the Water, when the Head of it is fast aground.

After coasting the Shore about Four Miles farther, the Road being by the low Salt-marshes kept at a Distance from the River, we came to *Aust* Ferry, so named from a little dirty Village called *Aust*; near which you come to take Boat.

This Ferry lands you at *Beachly* in *Monmouthshire*; so that on the one Side it is called *Aust Passage*, and on the other Side *Beachly Passage*. From whence you go by Land Two little Miles to *Chepstow*, a large Port-town on the River *Wye*. But of that Port I shall say more in its Place.

Here is a good neat Chapel, with an high Tower at the West-end, adorned with Pinacles.

This Place is memorable from a Circumstance in the Reign of King *Edw. I.* who, being here, invited *Llewellyn* Prince of *Wales*, who was on the other Side, to come over and confer with him, and settle some Matters in Dispute between them; but the Prince refused, and the King thereupon crossed over to him, who, in a Rapture of Generosity, leaped into the Water, to receive the King in his Boat, telling him, His Humility had conquered his Pride, and his Wisdom triumphed over his Folly.

When we came to *Aust*, the hither Side of the Passage, the Sea was so broad, the Fame of the *Bore* of the Tide so formidable, the Wind also made the Water so rough, and, which was worse, the Boats to carry over both Man and Horse appeared so very mean, that, in short, none of us cared to venture; but came back, and resolved to keep on the Road to *Gloucester*.

Thornbury is a Market-town, and hath a customary Mayor, and 12 Aldermen; and was given in the Conqueror's Time to the famous *Fitz-Hammon*. Here are the Foundations of a large Castle, designed, but never finished, by the Duke of *Buckingham*, in King *Henry VIII.*'s Time. Here is a spacious Church, built Cathedral-

dral-wife ; it has fine wide Isles, and Three Chances with an high and beautiful Tower. Here are a Free-school, and Four Alms-houses.

On the Right lies *Wotton*, a pretty Market-town governed by a Mayor elected annually at the Court Leet. 'Tis famous for its Cloathing-trade. The Church, which is a Vicarage, is large, and hath Two wide Isles, and an high handsome Tower, adorned with Battlements and Pinacles. There are in it diverse Tombs, Monuments, and Inscriptions, chiefly for the Family of *Berkley*. Here are a Free-school, and some Charity-houses.

Directly North of this Town lies *Dursley*, a good Clothing and Market-town, governed by a Bailiff and Four Constables ; and has been formerly noted for sharp, over-reaching People ; from whence arose a proverbial Saying of a tricking Man, *He is a Man of Dursley*. The Church is good, hath Two Isles, and an handsome Spire.

Turning North-west, we came to *Berkley*, a notable Town, so called from *Berk*, a Beech, and *Lea*, Pasture. It is the largest Parish in the County, and consists of rich Meadow-grounds ; and above 30 Parishes depend on this Manor, for which a Fee-farm Rent was paid, in King *Henry II.*'s Time, of 500 *l.* 17 *s.* 2 *d.* which shews the vast Extent and Value of this Estate. It belongs to the present Earl of *Berkley*, who is also Baron of *Dursley*. Adjoining to this Town is the strong Castle of *Berkley*, a magnificent, though antique, Building, and the antient Seat of this noble Family, from whence it derives its Name as well as Title, ever since the Time of King *Henry II.* who gave it to *Robert Fitzharding*, who assumed the Name of *Berkley*, and from whom the present Earl is lineally descended. King *Edward II.* of *England*, as all our learned Writers agree, was murdered in this Castle ; King *Richard II.* was in that of *Pontefract* in *Yorkshire* ; but I refer to our Histories for these horrid Facts.

The

They shew the Apartments, where they say that King was a Prisoner : but they do not admit, that he was killed there. The Place is rather antient, than pleasant or healthful, lying low, and near the Water. Here is a large, spacious Church, with an Isle on each Side, and a Chapel adjoining, which is the Burial-place of the Family, a neat Vestry, and a strong high Tower.

On the Right of the Road is *Stanley*, a little Market town, where was formerly a Priory, the Ruins whereof still appear. The Church is built in the Form of a Cross, with a Tower in the Middle.

A noble Improvement has been made in these Parts ; for the Earl of *Berkley* has lately finished a great Bulwark at *Frampton* upon *Severn*, near this Place, called *Hock-Crib*, the Design of which is to enforce the River *Severn*, by *Art's-Point*, into its former Chanel. It is said his Lordship intends to build another, Four Miles below the former, by which he will undoubtedly gain a large Tract of Land, contiguous to what is called the *New-Grounds*, inferior to none in *England* for the Richness of its Soil.

From *Frampton* the flowing Tide runs in a strait Line for about Four Miles in Length Westward, with such Rapidity, that, on its reaching the Foot of an Hill, on the left Side of the antient Forest of *Dean*, and turning round to the Northward, it gathers into an Head, that looks like an high Weir across the River's Breadth ; bearing every thing before it, till it comes to *Newnham's Nob* ; a natural Bulwark, which turns the Torrent so to the Eastward, that, when it reaches the North of *Frampton*, the Land between the Two Parts of the River is but about a Mile in Breadth.

Newnham is an antient Town-corporate, the Sword of State being still preserved there, which King *John* gave them with their Charter ; and the Place is remarkable for its having been the first Fortification that was raised on the other Side of the *Severn* against
the

the *Welsh*; for its having been the Manor by which the great Place of High Constable of *England* was held down to the Execution of *Edward Stafford* Duke of *Buckingham*, on the 17th of *May* 1521. and for its having given Rise to the Art of making Glafs in *England*; the Remains of the first Glafs-houses that were erected in the Kingdom being still to be seen here. The Town consists of little more than One long Street running North and South, and built upon the high Shore of the *Severn*. It has a Vale on the Back of it, and is defended on that Side with a great Bank of Earth which makes the most agreeable Terrace-walk. The Extremity of the Town Southward, being the highest Part of it, is adorned with a beautiful House and Garden, which belonged to *Thomas Cromp*, Esq; deceased, from whence you have a full View of the whole semielliptical Part of the River. The Extremity of it Northward, being the lowest Part, it is adorned with an handsome House and Garden, belonging to Mr. *Thomas Trigg*, an eminent Attorney at Law: and, there being a common Ferry here over the *Severn*, a spacious Road running Westward, and lately repaired at the Expence of his Majesty, leads from the Town to the Forest.

This Forest once contained 30,000 Acres of Land, being 20 Miles long, and so full of Wood, that it was very dangerous to travel through. Its Oak was famous for Shipping, the Glory of our own, and so much the Envy of other Nations, that the famous *Spanish Armada* had it in special Charge to burn it. The great Number of Iron Forges near it has greatly lessened, though not consumed, the Wood, which is still preserved with much Care. It is subject to Forest-Laws; and the Iron-Miners have here a Court also.

From hence to *Gloucester*, we see nothing considerable, but a most fertile, rich Country, and a fine River, but narrower, as you go Northward, till, a little before we come to *Gloucester*, it ceases to be navigable
by

by Ships of Burden, but continues to be so, by large Barges, above an hundred Miles farther, not reckoning the Turnings and Windings of the River; besides that it receives several large and navigable Rivers into it.

Gloucester (called by the Britons, *Caer-glow*, i. e. *Fine City*; and, in Imitation of it, *Glevum*, by the Romans) abounds much with Crosses and Statues of the Kings of *England*, and has an handsome Prospect of Steeples, some without a Church; for, in the Civil Wars, when it held out vigorously against King *Charles I.* and was then very strong, it suffered much; for its 11 Churches were then reduced to Five, and all its Walls and Works were demolished. The City is still tolerably built; and here is a large Stone Bridge over the *Severn*, the first next the Sea. Here are several Market-houses supported with Pillars, one a very old one of Stone, in *Gothic* Architecture, ancient and uncommon, now turned into a Cistern for Water.

They go on very successfully in pulling down the old Houses, and other Buildings, which projected into the streets, and were become not only very unsightly, but were Obstructions also to the Trade of that populous and thriving City, pursuant to an Act passed for that Purpose the Session of Parliament in 1749-50. The old Cross which stood likewise just where the Four great streets meet at Right Angles, in the Centre of the Town, and which was adorned with the Effigies of several of the *English* Monarchs, being defaced, and decayed by Time, is taken down; and in its stead is to be erected a Statue (made by Mr. *Chere* in *Piccadilly*) of Colonel *Selwyn*, Member for that City; who has, at his own great Expence, made a very large, noble Reservoir of excellent Water, about half a Mile off, for the public Use: The said Water is to be brought, through the Trunk of the said Statue, into a large square Basin, to be placed just at the Feet of the Statue, and from

thence to run out on each Side, into Four Canals, one of which is to pass through each of the Four great Streets for the convenient Supply of the Inhabitants.

The Figures surrounding the above-mentioned Cross being esteemed curious Pieces of Antiquity, particular Draughts of them have been taken by Mr. *Rickets* of *Gloucester*, pursuant to an Order from the Society of Antiquaries in *London*, to whom they have been sent that they may be preserved to the latest Posterity.

The old Proverb, *As sure as God's at Gloucester*, certainly alluded to the vast Number of Churches and religious Foundations here; for you can scarce walk past Ten Doors, but somewhat of that sort occurs.

The Cathedral is an old venerable Pile, built by *Alfred*, Bishop of *Worcester*, afterwards Archbishop of *York*. The Western Part is old and mean; but from the Tower, which is very handsome, you have a most glorious Prospect Eastward, through the Choir, finely vaulted at Top; and the Ladies Chapel to the East Window, which is very magnificent. On the North-side lies that unfortunate King *Edward II.* in an Alabaster Tomb; and, out of the Abundance of pious Offerings to his Remains, the Religious built this Choir; and the Votaries to his Shrine, for some time after his Death, could hardly find room in the Town. So changeable are the Tempers of Men! and so little a Space is required to dispose the Minds of the fluctuating Many, to *Hosanna* or *Crucify*!

Before the High Altar, in the Middle of the Church, lies the equally unfortunate Prince *Robert*, eldest Son of the Conqueror, after a miserable Life for many Years before his Death. But his Monument remains, and his Bones are at Rest; which is more than can be said of the Monument of his younger Brother King *Henry I.* who, as the second Brother *William Rufus* had done, robbed him of his Right; and no Traces of his Monument are left at *Reading-Abbey*, where he was buried with his Queen. He lies in a wooden Tomb, with

with his Coat of Arms painted, and upon it his Effigies in *Irish Oak*, cross-legged like a *Jerusalem Knight*. The famous *Strongbow*, who subdued *Ireland*, lies buried in the Chapter-house.

The Cloisters in this Cathedral are exquisitely beautiful, in the Stile of the Chapel of *King's-College, Cambridge*. There are large Remains, in the City, of Abbeys of Black and White Friars. A Mile or Two distant is *Robin Hood's Hill*, as it is called, which affords now a pleasant Walk for the Citizens, and from which they are attempting to supply the City with Water, which it has much wanted. By this City, the *Rickning Way* runs from the *Severn's Mouth* into *Yorkshire*.

The Inhabitants boast much of the Antiquity of their first Cathedral, which they pretend had Bishops and Preachers here *Anno 189*. the first Cathedral, I say; -for it has been, as reported, thrice destroyed by Fire.

William the Conqueror gave this City and Castle to the famous *Robert Fitz-Hammon*, afterwards Lord of *Glamorgan*. *Edol*, one of the *British Nobles*, who attended King *Vortigern* to the Congress appointed by *Hengist*, was Earl of this Place. He was a Man of great personal Strength, and, seeing the *Saxons* drawing forth their concealed Weapons, he disarmed one of them, and fought valiantly; but, being over powered by Numbers, he escaped to this City, after having killed, as they tell us, 70 *Saxons* with his own Hands. Afterwards, in a Battle fought against the *Saxons* near the River *Don*, he fixed his Eye upon *Hengist*, and never quitted him, till he took him Prisoner, and struck off his Head.

In the little Isle of *Alney*, near this Town, the famous single Combat was fought between *Edmund Ironside* and *Canute the Dane*, for the whole Kingdom, in Sight of both their Armies.

The City is governed by a Mayor, 12 Aldermen, and so many Common-councilmen, as, with the Mayor

Mayor and Aldermen, exceed not the Number of 40, nor are fewer than 30. The Aldermen are Justices of the Peace; and Two Sheriffs are annually chosen from them. It has also an High-Steward (who is usually a Nobleman), a Recorder, and a Town-clerk. They are allowed the highest Marks of magistratical Honour, Scarlet Gowns, the Sword, and Cap of Maintenance, and Four Sergeants at Mace. Here are 12 Companies, the Masters whereof attend the Mayor on all public Occasions in their Gowns, and with Streamers. It has a large Quay and Wharf on the River for Trade, and a Custom-house. Here is also a Town-hall, for the Assizes, and public Business, which they call the *Booth-hall*; and great Part of the Castle is still standing.

Gloucester was made a Bishoprick by King *Henry VIII.* who erected the Abbey-Church into a Cathedral, with a Dean, and Six Prebendaries.

The First Protestant Bishop of this Church was that truly reverend and religious Divine, Dr. *John Hooper*, who was burnt to Death in the Cemetery of his own Cathedral, in the Reign of Queen *Mary*.

The Whispering-place in this Cathedral formerly passed for a kind of Wonder among the Vulgar; but since, Experience has taught the easily-comprehended Reason of the Thing; and there is now the like in the Church of *St. Paul, London*.

Here is great Provision for the Poor by Hospitals; particularly *Bartholomew's Hospital* maintains Fifty-four Men and Women, to whom belong a Minister, Physician, and Surgeon. And Sir *Thomas Rich*, Bart. a Native of this Place, gave 6000 *l.* by Will, for a *Blue-coat Hospital*, wherein are educated 20 poor Boys; and 10 poor Men and Women are maintained, and cloathed annually. Besides these, and Three more, there are many Benefactions to encourage young Tradesmen, and place out Boys Apprentices. And they have lately erected

erected an Infirmary here, after the laudable Example of that of *Winchester*, &c.

The City has, in antient Times as well as later, given the Titles of Earl and Duke to several of the Royal Family. The last Duke was that hopeful young Prince, Son to Queen *Anne*, who, to the excessive Regret of the Nation, died in his Minority.

Here are Four Fairs held annually, on *March 25. June 24. Sept. and Nov. 17.* It is a County of itself, and sends Two Members to Parliament.

At *Lassington*, near *Gloucester*, are found certain Stones, about the Breadth of a Silver Penny, and Thickness of an Half-crown, called *Astroites*, or Star-stones, being fine-pointed like a Star, and flat. They are of a greyish Colour, and the flat Sides are naturally finely engraven, as it were. But I have taken notice of these
p. 271.

From *Gloucester* we kept Eastward, and soon came to *Cheltenham*, a Market-town, where is still a pretty good Trade carried on in Malt, but not so considerable as formerly. Here is a good Church in the Form of a Cross, with Isles on each Side, and a Spire rising in the Middle, noted for a good Ring of Bells. But what is more remarkable is, that the Minister is to be nominated by, and must be a Fellow of, *Jesus-College, Oxon* (tho' the Vicarage is but 40*l.* a Year), but approved of by the Earl of *Gainsborough*; and he cannot hold it more than Six Years. Here are a Freeschool, an Hospital, and some other Charities.

The Mineral Waters lately discovered at *Cheltenham*, which are of the *Scarborough* Kind, are what will make this Place still more and more remarkable, and frequented. An eminent Physician has obliged me with the following Account of their Nature and Qualities:

‘ These Waters, he observes, were first found out
‘ by the Flocks of all the neighbouring Pigeons going
‘ constantly thither to provoke their Appetites, as well
‘ as to quench the uncommon Thirst of these salacious
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' Birds. I have been informed, says he, by a Physician
 ' of Credit and Experience, who had made all the com-
 ' mon Trials on them, and observed their Effects on
 ' many Persons of various Constitutions, and in differ-
 ' ent Distempers, who had drank them, That, on Eva-
 ' poration, they were found to contain, in a Gallon,
 ' Eight Drachms of nitrous Salt, with Two Drachms
 ' of an alcalious Earth: That they were compounded
 ' of a large Quantity of Nitre, to which they owed
 ' their purgative Virtue; a light Sulphur, which the
 ' fetid Dejections manifested; and a volatile Steel, dis-
 ' coverable by a transparent blue Colour, when mixed
 ' with an Infusion of Nut-galls. Alcalious Spirits have
 ' no Effect on them; but they ferment with Acids.
 ' He further adds, That there might be found some
 ' other Materials in their Composition, perhaps, if more
 ' minutely examined and tortured: but that these men-
 ' tioned Principles were evident and incontestable, and
 ' were sufficient to account for all their Effects and
 ' Operation; the others (if there be any) being of
 ' little Efficacy. In the Operation, they empty the
 ' Bowels according to their Dose, but gently, mildly,
 ' and easily, without Sickness, Nausea, Gripes, or caus-
 ' ing great Lowness, far beyond any artificial Purges
 ' whatsoever. They give a good Appetite, an easy
 ' Digestion, and quiet Nights, in all nephritic and gouty
 ' Cases, when not under the Fit; in all rheumatic,
 ' scrophulous, scorbutic, or leprous Cases; but especi-
 ' ally in spermatic, urinary, or hæmorrhoidal Cases, he
 ' thinks them sovereign, and not to be matched. In
 ' a word, in all inflammatory Cases of whatever Kind,
 ' and whatever Part, he thinks them one of the most
 ' salutary Means which can be used. Those of pretty
 ' strong Nerves, and firm Constitutions, bear them
 ' with high Spirits, great Pleasure and Profit; but they
 ' do not at all suit with those of weak Nerves, para-
 ' lytic, hypochondriac, or hysteric Disorders, or those
 ' who are subject to any kind of Fits, Cramps, or Con-

' vulsions:

vulsions: they ruffle such too much, as generally all Purgatives do. He thinks they have a great Affinity to the *Scarborough Waters*, and might do great Cures in most chronical Distempers, if Exercise, and a proper Regimen, were directed with them.'

Following the Road towards *Warwick* directly, we arrived at *Winchcomb*, a small Market-town, situate in a Bottom, in the midst of good Pasture and Arable Lands, but of no great Account. The Church is a good Building, hath Two Isles, a large Chancel, and a lofty Tower adorned with Battlements and Pinacles. It is remarkable, that it is a Curacy worth no more than 10*l.* a Year, though the Impropriation is worth 300*l.* annually. Here was formerly a very rich Abbey, whereof the Abbat was mitred, founded by *Offa* King of *Mercia*.

Here we turned from the Road, and struck N. W. to *Tewksbury*, encompassed with Four Rivers; the *Avon* and *Carran* on the N. the *Severn* on the W. and the *Swyliate* on the S. 'Tis governed by Two Bailiffs, and 24 Burgeßes; and its Neighbourhood to *Cotswold-Downs* makes the Clothing-trade flourish here. It is a large and very populous Town, situate upon the *Warwickshire* River *Avon*, so called to distinguish it from the *Bristol Avon*, and others. The Town was long famous for its Mustard-balls, as also for a great Manufacture of Stockens; as are also *Campden* in this County, and *Pershore* in *Worcestershire*.

The great old Church at *Tewksbury* may be called one of the largest Churches in *England*, that is not Collegiate or Cathedral. It is very high, has Two spacious Isles, a stately Tower, and a large Chancel. The Communion-table is one intire Marble Stone, near 4 Feet long, and Three and an half broad.

The Town is famous for the decisive Battle fought between the Houses of *Lancaster* and *York*, in the Reign of King *Edward IV.* of the latter House, who was Conqueror. It sends Two Members to Parliament

Gloucestershire must not be passed over, without some Account of a pleasant and fruitful Vale, which crosses Part of the County, from East to West, on that Side of the *Cotswold*, and which is called *Stroud-water*; famous not only for the finest Cloths, but for dyeing those Cloths of the beautifulest Scarlets, and other grand Colours, that are any-where in *England*, perhaps in any Part of the World. Here I saw Two Pieces of Broad-cloth made, one Scarlet, the other Crimson in Grain, which were sent as Presents, the one to the late King *George*, while Elector, and the other to his present Majesty, which were very graciously accepted. The Cloth was valued at 45 s. *per* Yard, and was well worth it; for nothing so rich of that Kind had ever been made in *England*, as I was informed.

The Clothiers lie all along the Banks of this River, for near 20 Miles, and in the Town of *Stroud*, which lies in the Middle of it, as also at *Paynswick*, which I have mentioned, *p.* 269. The River makes its Way to the *Severn*, about Five Miles below *Gloucester*.

As *Tewksbury* lies on the Borders of *Worcestershire*, we soon entered that County, and came to *Upton*, an antient Market-town of some Note upon the *Severn*, over which it has a good Bridge. *Roman* Coins are frequently dug up here.

On the Left, Westward of this Town, and which part this County from that of *Hereford*, are *Malvern Hills*, which consist of large Mountains, prodigiously high and lofty, gradually rising one above another for about Seven Miles together. On these Hills are Two Villages, called *Great Malvern* and *Little Malvern*, at the Distance of about Two Miles from each other, each having had formerly an Abbey of *Benedictines*, the last lying in a dismal Cavity between the Hills. On the very Top of these Hills may be seen the Ruins of a prodigious Ditch, which *Gilbert* Earl of *Gloucester* dug, to separate his Possessions from those of the Church of *Hereford*.

Hereford. On these Hills are Two medicinal Springs, called *Holy Wells*: one is good for the Eyes, and putrid, fetid Livers; and the other for Cancers.

From *Upton* we traveled N. E. and came to *Pershore*, which lies on the low *London* Road to *Worcester*: it is said to be so called from the great Number of Pear-trees, which thrive plentifully here. It is a pleasant Market-town lying on the *Avon*, and famous for the Stocken-trade, mentioned p. 315.

Eastward of this Town stands *Evesham*, a Borough-town, situated on a gentle Ascent from the same River, over which it hath a Bridge of Seven stately Arches. It is an antient Mayor-town, and has the Privilege to try Felons. It is memorable for the decisive Battle, wherein *Simon Montfort* and the Barons were defeated by Prince *Edward*, afterwards King *Edward I.* who thereby released his Father out of Captivity. Here are Two Churches, with small Spire Steeples; but neither of them has any Bells, which have been removed to a famous Tower built by Abbat *Litchfield*, which stands near these Churches. This Borough returns Two Members to Parliament.

All around this Town lies that fruitful and plentiful Country, called from this Place, *The Vale of Evesham*, which runs all along the Banks of the *Avon*, from *Tewksbury* to *Pershore*, and to *Stratford upon Avon*, in the South Part of *Warwickshire*; which River is so far navigable.

The Parish-church of *Stratford* is very old. In it we saw the Monument of the inimitable *Shakespeare*, whose dramatic Performances set him at the Head of the *British* Theatre, and will make him renowned to the End of Time. His Busto is in the Wall on the North-side of the Church, and a flat Grave-stone covers the Body, in the Isle just under him; on which Grave-stone these half-angry Lines are written:

*Good Friend, for Jesus' sake, forbear
To move the Dust that resteth here.
Blest be the Man that spares these Stones ;
And curst be he, that moves my Bones !*

There is another Monument on the South-side of the Church next the Chancel, no less curious, and somewhat satirical. One of the Inscriptions (for there are Three more, in *Hebrew*, *Greek*, and *Latin*) is as follows :

*Here born, here liv'd, here dy'd, and bury'd here,
Lieth Richard Hill, thrice Bailiff of this Borough :
Two Matrons of good Fame he marry'd in God's Fear :
And now releas'd in Joy, he rests from worldly Sorrow.*

Over the *Avon* at *Stratford* is built a fair Stone Bridge of 14 Arches, with a long Causeway at the West-end of it, walled on both Sides.

The Navigation of this River *Avon* is an exceeding Advantage to all this Part of the Country, and also to the Commerce of the City of *Bristol*. For by this River they drive a very great Trade for Sugar, Oil, Wine, Tobacco, Iron, Lead, and, in a word, all heavy Goods, which are usually carried by Water almost as far as *Warwick*; and, in return, the Corn, and especially Cheese, are carried back from *Gloucestershire* and *Warwickshire* to *Bristol*; for *Gloucester* Cheese is excellent of the kind, and this County drives a great Trade in it.

This Vale extending itself in *Warwickshire*, and under the Ridge of little Mountains, called *Edge-hill*, is there called *The Vale of Red-horse*. All the Grounds, put together, make a most pleasant Corn Country, especially remarkable for the Goodness of the Air, and Fertility of the Soil.

Not far from *Stratford*, on the Borders of the County of *Worcester*, is *Alcester*, a Market-town, much frequented by Dealers in Corn: it is of great Antiquity; as appears by old Foundations of Buildings made of *Roman* Brick, and Gold, Silver, and Brass Coins found here. The old *Roman* Way, called *Ikenild-street*, passes through the Town.

From *Tewksbury*, North, it is 12 Miles to *Worcester*, along the Banks of the *Severn*, where I was wonderfully delighted with the Hedge-rows, lined all the Way with Apple and Pear-trees, full of Fruit, and those so common, that any Passengers, as they travel the Road, may gather and eat what they please. Here also, as well as in *Gloucestershire*, you meet with Cyder in the Public-houses, sold as Beer and Ale are in other Parts of *England*, and as cheap.

We saw at a Distance, in a most agreeable Situation, the Seat of Sir *Herbert Perrot Packington*, a Baronet of a very antient Family.

On the other Side of the *Severn*, at *Whitley-court*, Five Miles from *Bewdly*, and Seven from *Worcester*, the Lord *Foley* has a Seat, situate in a large Park.

Worcester, the *Branonium* of the *Romans*, seems to have been built by them to curb the *Silures* on the other Side of the *Severn*; and in Imitation of the *Roman* Name the *Britons* called it *Caer Wrangon*. It is situated in a Valley on the *Severn*, which, though generally rapid elsewhere, glides on here very gently. This City was burnt in 1041. by King *Hardicanute*, the Inhabitants having killed his Tax-gatherers. In 1080. *Roger de Montgomery* Earl of *Shrewsbury* burnt the Suburbs, and attacked the City; but the Citizens defended themselves with so much Gallantry, that they repulsed their Enemies with a terrible Slaughter. In 1113. it was almost destroyed by an accidental Fire, the Castle entirely consumed, and the Roof of the Cathedral damaged. In 1202. it was again burnt. It has suffered in

all the Civil Wars; but the Weights by which it has been pressed, have only conduced to bend it into Form, and raise it, like the Palm-tree, to its present Beauty and Stateliness: for it is a large, populous, well-built City, and the best paved in *England*. The *Foregate-street* is the most regular and beautiful that can be seen out of *London*. The *Guild-hall* is a very fine Building; but the Statues on the Outside disgrace it.

There is a good old Stone Bridge over the *Severn*, which stands exceeding high from the Surface of the Water, and has a Tower upon it, said to be built by the *Romans*. But as the Stream of the *Severn* is contracted here by the Buildings on either Side, there is evident Occasion sometimes for the Height of the Bridge, the Waters rising to an incredible Degree in the Winter-time.

The Commandery here, formerly belonging to *St. John's of Jerusalem*, is now possessed by Mr. *Wylde*, and is a fine old House of Timber, in the Form of a Court. The Hall, roofed with *Irish Oak*, makes one Side of it, built for the Reception of Pilgrims. The Windows are adorned with Imagery, and Coats Armorial of stained Glass. It stands just without the South Gate of the City in the *London Road*, where the Heat of the famous Battle happened between *K. Charles II.* and *Oliver Cromwell*; and they frequently find Bones of the Slain, in digging in the Garden. Above in the Park is to be seen a great Work of Four Bastions, called *The Royal Mount*, whence a *Vallum* and Ditch runs both Ways to encompass this Side of the City. Here, 'tis probable, the Storm began, when the Royalists were driven back into the City with great Slaughter; and the King escaped being made a Prisoner in the narrow Street at this Gate, by a loaded Cart of Hay purposely overthrown, which gave him Time to retire at the opposite Gate to *Boscobel*, or *White Ladies*.

A Mile and half above the South Gate, on the Top of the Hill, is the celebrated *Perrywood*, where
Cromwell's

Cromwell's Army lay, and which affords a fine Prospect over the County.

Worcester was made an Episcopal See by *Ethelred* King of the *Mercians*, who founded the Cathedral; which was again built by St. *Wulstan*, Bishop of the Diocese, about 1084. but enlarged and improved by his Successors; though the Body of it makes no extraordinary Appearance on the Outside. The Tower is low, without any Spire, only Four very small Pinacles on the Corners; and yet it has some little Beauty in it, more than the Church itself. The upper Part has some Images in it, but decayed by Time. *Baselus*, the first Bishop, was consecrated in 680. In it is buried the once restless King *John*; not where his Monument now stands, which is in the Choir before the High Altar; but under a little Stone before the Altar of the Eastermost Wall of the Church. On each Side of him, on the Ground, lie the Effigies of the Two Bishops, his chief Saints, *Wulstan* and *Oswald*, from whose Neighbourhood he hoped to be safe. The Image of the King probably lay here also upon the Ground, now elevated upon a Tomb in the said Choir.

On the South-side of the High Altar is a large and handsome Stone Chapel, over the Monument of Prince *Arthur*, eldest Son of *Henry VII.* who died at *Ludlow*, as his Tomb-stone specifies, *Anno 1502.* and whose Relict *Catharine*, Infanta of *Spain*, his Brother *Henry VIII.* marrying, after 20 Years Wedlock, was divorced from, to make way for *Anna Bolen*. The Choir of this Chapel is exquisite Workmanship; but suffered much in the Civil Wars.

Here is also, among other noted Monuments, one for that famous Countess of *Salisbury*, who, dancing before *Edward III.* in his great Hall at *Windsor*, dropped her Garter; which the King taking up, honoured it so much (as the idle Story goes) as to make it the denominating Ensign of the most Noble Order of the *Garter*; but this I have refused under my Account of

Windson: though, that the Countess did drop her Garter, is Fact; and the King might gallantly, to silence the Jest and Railleries of the Court, wear it during the Entertainment, instead of his Garter of the Order. But the Motto was given in Allusion to the Order of Knighthood, and not of the Garter.

The Monument is very fine, and there is this remarkable in it, That there are several Angers cut in Stone about it, strewing Garters over the Tomb.

There are several other antient Monuments in this Church, which I have not room to mention.

The Cloisters are very perfect, and the Chapter-house is large, supported, as to its arched Roof, by One umbilical Pillar. 'Tis now become a Library, is well furnished, and has many good antient Manuscripts.

There is a large old Gate-house standing, and near it the Castle, with a very high artificial Mount or Keep nigh the River.

The Bridge I have mentioned has Six Arches, and the Banks of the *Severn* look very beautiful on each Side, being enriched with pleasant Meadows.

This City is governed by a Mayor, and Six Aldermen. It has Two Chamberlains, a Recorder, a Town-clerk, Two Coroners, a Sword-bearer, Four Sergeants a Mace, and a Sheriff; being, like *Gloucester*, a County of itself, divided into Seven Wards, in which are 11 Parish-churches.

The Inhabitants are generally esteemed rich, being full of Business, occasioned chiefly by the Clothing trade, of which the City and the County round carry on a great Share, as well for the *Turky* as the Home trade. The Number of Hands which it employs in the Town, and adjoining Villages, in Spinning, Carding, Rowing, Fulling, Weaving, &c. is almost incredible. One Part of this Town is wholly possessed by *Welsh* People, who speak their own Language, and are employed in this Manufacture. So that this City, which was formerly

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merly so great a Grievance to the great ones of that Principality, now administers Subsistence to a vast Number of the meaner ones.

It is adorned by a capacious and beautiful Structure, called *The public Work-house*; in which Children of both Sexes are trained up to the Knowledge of Trade, and the Practice of Religion and Virtue; by whose Labour also the Aged and Decrepit are supported. This laudable Institution continued several Years, to the great Benefit of the City, till at last the Guardians of it having contracted a Debt of upwards of 300 *l.* they returned the Poor back to their respective Parishes; and, the whole Charity being frustrated, and put an End to, the Corporation lett out the Building for an Hop-market, Warehouses, &c. to pay the incurred Debt, either Principal or Interest.

Hereupon their then worthy Representative *Samuel Sandys, Esq;* now *Lord Sandys*, and other Gentlemen, procured an Act of Parliament for restoring it to its first laudable End; which Act took place from *June* 1730. and will be a lasting Monument to the Honour of the disinterested and public-spirited Gentleman, to whose unwearied Application, and inflexible Resolution, it was owing: for it must be observed, that alienated Charities are some of the hardest things in the World to be restored.

Opposite to this Work-house, *Robert Berkley of Spetchley, Esq;* erected a fine Hospital for 12 poor Men, and gave 2000 *l.* to build it, and 4000 *l.* to endow it.

Here are, besides, Three Grammar-schools, and Seven Alms-houses, all liberally endowed; and 10 Parish-churches. *St. Nicolas's Church*, in this City, has been lately rebuilt, and is a neat and commodious Edifice.

The Church of *All Saints*, in this Town, being in so ruinous a Condition, that Part of it actually fell down,

and the rest being ready to fall, an Act passed, Sess. 1737-8. for taking down and rebuilding the same.

The Market-days are *Wednesday*, *Friday*, and *Saturday*. Every *Saturday* is kept a very considerable Hop-market. The Fairs are held on the *Saturday* before *Palm-Sunday*, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, and her Nativity. *Worcester* sends Two Members to Parliament.

From *Worcester* I made some Excursions, to visit the Towns and Country Northward; and first came to *Droitwich*, a corporate Bailiwick and Borough-town, which has Four Churches, and is pretty wealthy. 'Tis famous for excellent white Salt, which is made here from the Summer to the Winter Solstice; not but they may make Salt here all the Year long, but they fear to over-stock the Market. It appears, by *Doomsday-book*, they made Salt here before the Conquest. The Salt Springs are very good, and productive of Plenty of Brine. The Town lies on the River *Salwarp*, and sends Two Members to Parliament.

Proceeding directly on, in the Road, we arrived at *Broomsgrove*, a large Bailiwick-town, likewise on the River *Salwarp*, where the Clothing-trade is pretty briskly carried on. It is the Centre of Four Roads: One leads to *Coventry* and *Leicester*; another to *Warwick*, and so to *London*; a Third to *Worcester*; and the Fourth to *Shrewsbury*.

Between *Worcester* and *Spetchley* was *St. Oswald's* Hospital, demolished in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*. But Dr. *Fell*, Bishop of *Oxford*, after the Restoration, recovered much of the Possessions, and erected a fair and large Hospital, which comfortably maintains 12 poor Men.

Kidderminster is a Town in this County of *Worcester*, very considerable for its woollen Trade, particularly the Weaving of what they call *Linsey-woolsey*, in which the Inhabitants are almost wholly employed. It is a large, but yet compact and populous, Town, situated

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on the *Stour*, and governed by a Bailiff, 12 capital Burgeſſes, 25 Common-councilmen, &c. In its Church is a croſs-legged Monument of Sir *Thomas Acton*.

Stourbridge is alſo ſituated upon the River *Stour*, over which it has a very good Bridge; whence its Name. This Town deals greatly in Glaſs Manufacture of all Sorts, and alſo in Iron-works of all Sorts; and is vaſtly improved of late Years, both in Houſes and Inhabitants. At *Swinford*, near *Stourbridge*, is a noble Hoſpital for 60 Boys, erected by the firſt Founder of the noble Family of *Foley*, which deſerves the Attention of a Travel-ler, and the Praise of all Men. At *Stourbridge* alſo fine Stone Pots are made for Glaſs-makers to melt their Metal in, alſo Crucibles, &c. the Clay, of which theſe things are made, being almoſt peculiar to the Place.

Near this Town is *Hagley-Park*, the Seat of Sir *George Lyttelton*, which is a beautiful Spot of Ground, having as great Variety of Hills, Valleys, and Wood, as can be imagined in ſuch a Space of Ground; and the late Poſſeſſor Sir *Thomas* was conſtantly improving and helping Nature; ſo that it may be eſteemed one of the fineſt Seats in this County.

A little below *Worceſter*, Weſtward, the *Severn* receives a River of a long deep Courſe, which comes from *Shropſhire*, called the *Teme*, on which ſtands a ſmall Market-town, called *Tenbury*, but of little Note. I paſſed this River formerly in my Way to *Ludlow*, at *Broadway*, a little Village; but now I went by the Way of *Bewdley*, on the Side of *Shropſhire*.

In this Courſe we ſaw Two fine Seats not very far from the *Severn*; viz. the Lord *Foley*'s, and the Earl of *Bradford*'s; as we did before a moſt delicious Houſe, belonging to the Lord *Conway*. Indeed this Part of the County, and all the County of *Salop*, is filled with fine Seats of the Nobility and Gentry, which we have not room to deſcribe. But although the Number of Seats is not diminiſhed in theſe Two Counties, yet many of the Parks have been laid open, and converted into Farms;

Farms; whereby the Owners have greatly enlarged their Estates, especially where the Land was good. The Number of inclosed Parks in *Salop*, some Years ago, was upwards of One hundred.

Bewdley, or *Beau-lieu*, i. e. *fine Place*, said to be so called from its pleasant and delightful Situation upon the Side of an Hill declining to the *Severn*, is a small Borough and Bailiff Market-town, well supplied with Corn, Malt, Leather, and Caps, which the *Dutch* Seamen buy, called *Monmouth Caps*, and noted for the Palace which King *Henry VII.* built here for his Son Prince *Arthur*, called *Tickenhall*. It had a very fine Park about it, which, with the House, was destroyed by the furious Enthusiasts in the Civil War. The Town sends One Member to Parliament.

A Mile off is *Ribsford*, the Seat of the Earl of *Powis*, pleasantly surrounded with Woods. Here is a good Picture of *William* the first Earl of *Pembroke*.

The Ends of the Hills towards the River are generally Rocks: and *Blackston-hill* has an Hermitage cut out of it, with a Chapel, and several Apartments. Near it is a pretty Rock upon the Edge of the Water, covered with Oaks, and many curious Plants.

Not far from *Cherbury-Park* is the Parish of *Roch*, where the famous *Augustine's* Oak stood, so called from a Conference held under it by *Augustine*, and the *British* Bishops, about the Celebration of *Easter*, and preaching God's Word, and administering Baptism after the Rites of the Church of *Rome*, which the *British* Bishops refused.

I thought once to have returned to *Worcester*, and so proceeded to *Herefordshire*, and down to *Monmouth*, and so round to the Coast of *Wales*. But being desirous to take in, first, the South Part of *Shropshire*, I followed the *Severn* up North, and came to *Bridgnorth*, a very antient and noted Borough-town, said to be built
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by Queen *Æthelfleda*, in the Time of the Heptarchy. The Charter given by King *John* mentions a former by King *Henry II.* It has endured several Sieges, in one of which *Hubert de St. Clare* voluntarily received an Arrow in his Breast, which was leveled at his Sovereign King *Henry II.* It was almost destroyed by Fire, in its Defence against Sir *Lewis Kirke*, an Officer in the Parliamentary Army. Upon the West Bank of the *Severn* are the Remains of an antient and magnificent Convent of *Franciscans*, under which are several Caverns, running a great Length.

Bridgnorth consists of Two Towns, the High and the Low, which are separated by the *Severn*, but united by a fair Stone Bridge of Seven Arches, which hath a Gate and Gate-house. The Situation is pleasant, the Air healthy, the Prospect delightful, and commodious for Trade. It hath been fortified with Walls, and a Castle built by *Robert de Belesme*, which are now in Ruins; and the Area in the last is converted to a fine Bowling-green. The Streets are many, and well paved. Part of the *Cowgate-street* is a Rock rising perpendicularly, where are several Tenements, which have an agreeable, though grotesque, Appearance. It is governed by Two Bailiffs, 24 Aldermen, and other inferior Officers. It is noted for good Gun-makers, and its Stocken Manufacture. It has a well-replenished Market, and Five Fairs annually, Two whereof hold Three Days, which are much resorted to, and abound with Horses, Black Cattle, Sheep, Butter, Cheese, Bacon, Linen-cloth, and Hops in great Plenty. Here are Two Churches, *St. Mary Magdalen's*, made a free Chapel, and exempted from episcopal Jurisdiction, by King *John*; and *St. Leonard's*, which was burnt in the Civil Commotions under King *Charles I.* and lately rebuilt by the Inhabitants; but the College, which met with the same Fate, was never restored: and though the Parishes are large, and the Town very populous, they are very indifferently endowed, and so is the Free-school.

school. There is an hollow Way cut through the Rock, leading from the high Town to the Bridge, of the Depth of 20 Feet, in some Parts of it; and likewise many Vaults and Dwellings are hewn out of the Rock. The Town sends Two Members to Parliament.

From hence we advanced in the direct Road to *Shrewsbury*, and came to *Great Wenlock*, an antient incorporate Town, governed by a Bailiff and Burgesles; which returns Two Members to Parliament.

Leaving *Shrewsbury* for my Observation at my Return from *Wales* through *Cheshire*, we turned short here, and fell down Southward to *Ludlow*, famed more for its Beauty than Antiquity; for, it seems, the Castle, which was so truly magnificent, was built by *Roger de Montgomery* in the *Conqueror's* Time.

But before I speak more of this Castle, I shall observe, that on the Extremity of this County, in a kind of Promontory, which runs in between *Montgomeryshire* and *Radnorshire*, upon the *Clun*, lies

Bishops-Castle, a small Market, Bailiwick, and Borough-town, which sends Two Members to Parliament: and not very far from it, just at the Entrance into *Montgomeryshire*, is a noted Place called *Bishops-mott*; where is an Acre of Ground, surrounded with an Intrenchment. The *Clun* meets the *Teme* at *Ludlow*, and both, united, run to *Clebury*, a small Town on the Borders of *Worcestershire*, where it falls, as I mentioned before, into the *Severn*.

The Castle of *Ludlow* thws plainly in its Decay, what it was in its flourishing Estate: it is the Palace of the Prince of *Wales*, in Right of his Principality.

Its Situation is indeed most beautiful; there is a most spacious Plain or Lawn in its Front, which formerly continued near Two Miles; but much of it is now inclosed. The Country round it is exceeding pleasant, fertile, populous, and the Soil rich; nothing can be added by Nature, to make it a Place fit for a Royal Palace. It is built in the North-west Angle of the
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Town upon a Rock, commanding a delightful Prospect Northward; and on the West is shaded by a lofty Hill, and washed by the River. The Battlements are of great Height and Thickness, with Towers at convenient Distances. That Half which is within the Walls of the Town is secured with a deep Ditch; the other is founded on a solid Rock. A Chapel here has abundance of Coats of Arms upon the Panels, as has the Hall, together with Lances, Spears, Firelocks, and old Armour.

It will be no Wonder, that this noble Castle is in the very Perfection of Decay, when we acquaint our Readers, that the present Inhabitants live upon the Sale of the antient Materials. All the fine Courts, the Royal Apartments, Halls, and Rooms of State, lie open, abandoned, and some of them falling down; for since the Courts of the President and Marches are taken away, here is nothing that requires the Attendance of any public Persons; so that Time, the great Devourer of the Works of Men, begins to eat into the very Stone Walls, and to spread the Face of Ruin upon the whole Fabric. Over several of the Stable-doors are the Arms of *Queen Elizabeth*, the Earls of *Pembroke*, &c.

The Town of *Ludlow* is likewise fortified with Walls, through which are Seven Gates. It is well-built, and a Place of good Trade; but, to be sure, it is not the better for the ruinous State of the Castle, and the abolishing of the Court held there for the Marches. It stands on the Edge of the Two Counties, *Shropshire* and *Worcestershire*, but is itself in the first.

On the South-side of the Town runs the *Teme*, over which is a good Bridge. The River has several Dams across it, in the Nature of Cataracts, whereby abundance of Mills are turned; and great is the Roar of the superfluous Waters.

Ludlow has a very good Church with an handsome Tower, and a pleasant Ring of Six Bells. The Windows are full of painted Glass, pretty intire.

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There are some old Monuments of the Lords Presidents, &c. and an Inscription upon the North Wall of the Choir, relating to Prince *Arthur*, elder Brother to King *Henry VIII.* who died here; and in this Spot his Bowels were deposited. It is said, That his Heart was taken up some time ago in a leaden Box.

In the Eastern Angle of the Choir is a Closet, anciently called *The Godhouse*, where the Priests secured their consecrated Utensils. The Window is strongly barred on the Outside. The Church is dedicated to *St. Laurence*: and in the Market-place is a Cistern or Conduit, on the Top of which is a long Stone Cross, bearing a Nich, in which is the Image of that Saint.

West of the Church was a College, now converted to a private House. - There was a rich Priory out of the Town, on the North side of which are but few Ruins to be seen, except a small Church, which formerly belonged to it. The *Welsh* call this Town *Llys Twysoe*, i. e. *The Prince's Court*. Mr. *Camden* calls the River *Teme* the *Temd*, and another River which joins it just at this Town, the *Corve*, whence the rich flat Country below the Town is called *Corvesdale*. It is governed by Two Bailiffs, 12 Aldermen, a Recorder, 25 Common-council-men, and other inferior Officers; and has the particular Privilege of trying and executing Criminals. It has an Alms-house for 30 poor People; and sends Two Members to Parliament.

King *Henry VIII.* established here the Court of the President and Council of the Marches, before-mentioned; and all Causes of *Nisi Prius*, or of Civil Right, were tried here, before the Lord President and Council; but this Court, being grown a great Grievance to the Public, was intirely taken away by Act of Parliament, in the First Year of King *William* and Queen *Mary*.

From *Ludlow* we took our Course still due South to *Lemster*, or *Leominster*, a large Market-town on the River

River *Lug*, over which it hath several Bridges. 'Tis governed by a Bailiff, and returns Two Members to Parliament. The Church, which is very large, has been in a manner rebuilt, and is now very beautiful. This Town is noted for its fine Wool, and the best Wheat, and consequently the finest Bread; and also for the best Barley; whence *Lemster Bread*, and *Weobly Ale*, are become a proverbial Saying.

It is a Town of brisk Trade in Wool, Hat-making, Leather, &c. and lies in a Valley exceedingly luxuriant. Three Rivers of a very swift Current go through the Town, besides others very near. The Inhabitants make great Use of these by Mills, and other Machinery, in the various Branches of their Trade. On the North-side of the Church was a considerable Priory, Two Isles of which belong now to the Church, and Two others of more lightsome Work have been added. The Mayor has a long black Rod to walk with, tipped with Silver. There are some poor Remains of the Priory, chiefly a little Chapel, which probably belonged to the Prior's Family. Underneath it runs a pretty Rivulet, which used to grind his Corn, now converted to a Fulling-mill. Near it are very large Ponds for Fish, which used to furnish the Monks on fasting Days. There was a fine Gatehouse, pulled down not long ago, near the *Ambry* or *Almery* Close, where they gave their Scraps away to the Poor.

At *Lemster* there is an Alms-house, founded by the Widow of a Man who gave away the best Part of his Effects in his Life-time. In a Nich over the Entrance is the Figure of a Man holding up an Hatchet, with these Words under:

*Let him that gives his Goods before he is dead,
Take this Hatchet, and cut off his Head.*

Pembridge, *Weobly*, and *Kyneton*, lie South-west of *Lemster*, and form in their Situation a kind of Triangle. They

They are all Market-towns, and the first is pretty considerable for the Clothing-trade; the second for Ale and for sending Two Members to Parliament; but the third for nothing that I know of.

The Country on the Right, as we came from *Ludlow*, is very fruitful and pleasant, and is called the Hundred of *Wigmore*, from which the Earl of *Oxford* takes the Title of Baron. Here we saw the Two antient Castles of *Brampton-Brian*, and *Wigmore*, both belonging to the late Earl's Grandfather, Sir *Edward Harley*. *Brampton* is a stately Pile, but not kept in full Repair. The Parks are fine, and full of large Timber.

We were now on the Borders of *Wales*, properly so called; for from the Windows of *Brampton* Castle, you have a fair Prospect into the County of *Radnor*, which is, as it were, under its Walls; nay, even this whole County of *Hereford* was a Part of *Wales*, and so deemed for many Ages. The People of this County too boast, that they were a Part of the antient *Silures*, who for so many Ages withstood the *Roman* Arms, and could never be intirely conquered. They are a diligent and laborious People, chiefly addicted to Husbandry; and they boast, that they have the finest Wool, the best Hops, and the richest Cyder, in all *Britain*; and possibly with some Reason; for the Wool about *Leominster*, and in the Hundred of *Wigmore*, and the *Golden Vale*, as it is called for its Richness, on the Banks of the River *Dove* (all in this County), is as fine as any in *England*, the *South-down* Wool not excepted. As for Hops, they plant abundance all over this County, and they are very good. And for Cyder, it is the common Drink of the County, and is so very good, and so cheap, that we never found fault, though we could get no other Drink for 20 Miles together. Great Quantities of this Cyder are sent to *London*, even by Land-carriage, though so very remote; which is an Evidence in its Favour beyond Contradiction.

One would hardly expect so pleasant and fruitful a Country as this, so near the barren Mountains of *Wales*; but 'tis certain, that not any of our Southern Counties, the Neighbourhood of *London* excepted, come up to the Fertility of this County.

From *Lemster* it is Ten Miles to *Hereford*, the chief City, not of this County only, but of all the Counties West of the *Severn*. In the Time of the Civil Wars it was very strong, and, being well fortified, and as well defended, supported a tedious and very severe Siege; for, besides the Parliament's Forces, who could never reduce it, the *Scots* Army was called to the Work, who lay before it, till they laid above 4000 of their Bones there; and at last it was rather surrendered by the fatal Issue of the War, than by the Attack of the Besiegers.

It had before this Six Parish-churches; but Two of them were demolished at that time. It has an Hospital liberally endowed for 12 poor People.

The City of *Hereford* probably sprung from the Ruins of the *Roman Ariconium*, now *Kenchester*, Three Miles off, higher up the River *Wye*, but not very near it, which may be a Reason for its Decay.

Kenchester stands upon a little Brook, called the *Ine*, which thence encompassing the Walls of *Hereford*, falls into the *Wye*.

Archenfield seems to retain the Name of *Ariconium*. Nothing remains of its Splendor, but a Piece of a Temple probably, with a Nich, which is Five Feet high, and Three broad within, built of Brick, Stone, and indissoluble Morter. There are many large Foundations near it. A very fine mosaic Floor, a few Years ago, was found intire, which was soon torn to Pieces by the ignorant Country-people. A Bath was here found by Sir *John Hoskins* about Seven Feet square, the Pipes of Lead intire: those of Brick were a Foot long, Three Inches square, let artificially into one another; over these, I suppose, was a Pavement.

This,

This, as Dr. *Stukely* observes, is an excellent Invention for heating a Room, and might well be introduced among us in Winter-time.

In another Place is an Hollów, where burnt Wheat has been taken up. All around the City you may easily trace the Walls, some Stones being left every-where, though overgrown by Hedges and Timber-trees. The Situation of the Place is a gentle Eminence of a squarish Form; the Earth black and rich, over-grown with Brambles, Oak-trees, full of Stones, Foundations, and Cavities, where they have been digging, and found many Coins, &c. Colonel *Dantsey* has paved a Cellar with square Bricks dug up here. The late Earl of *Corningsby* adorned the Floor of his Evidence-room with them.

This City is overlooked and sheltered towards the North with a prodigious Mountain of steep Ascent; on the Top stands a vast Camp, with Works altogether inaccessible, which is called *Credon hill*. At the Summit, you are presented with the most glorious and extensive Prospect, as far as *St. Michael's Mount*, in *Monmouthshire*; crowned with Two Tops, and of considerable Resort among Zealots of the *Romish* Persuasion, who believe this holy Hill was sent hither by *St. Patric* out of *Ireland*, and that it works Wonders in several Cases.

On the other Side, is the vast Black Mountain, which separates *Brecknockshire* from this County. The Town underneath appears like a little Copse. *Dinder-hill*, whereon is a *Roman* Camp, stands on the contrary Bank of the *Wye*.

Upon the *Lug* are *Sutton-walls*, another vast *Roman* Camp upon an Hill overlooking a beautiful Vale, which was the Regal Residence of the powerful King *Offa*; but chiefly remarkable for the Murder of young King *Ethelbert*, whom he allured thither under Pretext of courting his Daughter, and who was buried in the neighbouring Church of *Marden*, situate in a Marsh

by the River-side. Hence his Body was afterwards conveyed to *Hereford*, and enshrined; but the particular Place cannot be found, his Monument being destroyed by the *Welsh* under a rebellious Earl of *Mercia*, who also plundered the City, and robbed the Ecclesiastics.

In the North Wing of the Cathedral of *Hereford*, is the Shrine, where the Body of *Cantilupe*, the great Miracle-monger in the West of *England*, was deposited; which Wing was built by himself, and on the Wall his Picture is painted. All round are the Marks of Hooks, where the Banners, Lamps, Reliques, and the like Presents, were hung up. And the Riches of this Place were doubtless very considerable; for it is well guarded against the Assaults of Thieves. The Shrine is of Stone, carved round with Knights in Armour.

The Church, built by Bishop *Athelstan*, is very old and stately. The Spire is not high, but handsome; and there is a fine Tower at the West-end. The Roof, Isles, and Chapel, have been added to the more antient Part by successive Bishops, as also the Towers, Cloisters, &c. The Choir, though plain, is handsome; and there is a very good Organ. Adjoining to the Church is a College for 12 Vicars, and the Choristers, who lead an academical Life.

The Chapter-house, which was very beautiful, was destroyed in the Civil Wars. About Four Windows are left standing; and the Springings of the Stone Arches between are of fine Ribwork, which composed the Roof, of that Sort of Architecture, wherewith *King's-College-Chapel* was built. Two Windows were pulled down by Bishop *Bisse*, which he used in new-fitting up the Episcopal Palace. Under the Windows, in every Compartment, was painted a King, Bishop, Saint, Virgin, or the like; some of which were distinct enough, though so long exposed to the Weather.

Here

Here are a great Number of Monuments of Bishops and many valuable Brasses and Tombs.

Between the Cathedral and Palace is a most venerable Pile, built and roofed with Stone, consisting of Two Chapels, one above the other; the upper dedicated to St. *Magdalen*; the lower, which is some Steps underground, to St. *Catharine*.

The Government of the City is administered by a Mayor, Recorder, and Common-council. There are also peculiar Privileges for Companies, who have separate Halls, and Power of making By-laws for the Benefit of their Trade. Here are Two great Fairs held on *Wednesday* after *Easter day*, and on the 20th of *March*; an extraordinary Market on *Fridays* for Cattle, besides those on *Wednesdays* and *Saturdays*. The City sends Two Members to Parliament.

The Castle was a noble Work, built by one of the *Edwards* before the Conquest, strongly walled and ditched. There is a very lofty artificial Keep, having a Well faced with good Stone: and by the Side of the Ditch a Spring consecrated to St. *Ethelbert*, with an old Stone Arch.

Without the Walls are the Ruins of *Black-Friars* Monastery, and a pretty Stone Cross intire; round which the Cloisters were originally built, as now the Cloisters of the Cathedral inclose another such. These Crosses were in the Nature of a Pulpit, whence a Monk preached to the People in the open Air, as now practised in the Cloisters of some Colleges in the Universities once a Year.

The neighbouring Hill, called *Brynmaur*, or *The great Hill*, makes amends for the Tedioufness of climbing it, by the Pleasure we receive from its woody Crest, and extensive Prospect.

At the City of *Hereford*, we could not but inquire into the Truth of the Story so famous, that the late Bishop *Gibson* has mentioned it in his Continuation

tio

tion of *Camden*, of the removing the Two great Stones near *Sutton*; which the People confirmed to us. The Story is thus :

Between *Sutton* and *Hereford*, in a common Meadow called the *Wergins*, were placed Two large Stones for a Water-mark; one erected upright, and the other laid athwart. In the Civil Wars, about the Year 1652. they removed to about Twelve-score Paces Distance, and nobody knew how; which gave occasion to a vulgar Notion, That they were carried thither by the Devil. When they were set in their Places again, one of them required Nine Yoke of Oxen to draw it.

Lidbury lies Eastward of *Hereford*, near the South End of the *Malvern Hills*. It is a fine well-built Market-town, situate in rich clayey Grounds, and much inhabited by Clothiers. Here is an Hospital for the Poor, well endowed.

Not far from *Lidbury*, is *Colwal*; near which, upon the Waste, as a Countryman was digging a Ditch about his Cottage, he found a Crown or a Coronet of Gold, with Gems set deep in it. It was of a Size large enough to be drawn over the Arm with the Sleeve. The Stones of it are said to have been so valuable, as to be sold by a Jeweller for One thousand Five hundred Pounds.

Hereford, though a large and populous City, may yet be said to be old, mean-built, and very dirty, lying low, and on the Bank of the *Wye*, which sometimes incommodes them very much, by the violent Freshes that come down from the Mountains of *Wales*; for all the Rivers of this County, except the *Diffryn-Doe*, come out of *Wales*.

One thing remarkable, which we must not omit, is, that the College still retains its Foundation-laws, and the Residentiaries are obliged to Celibacy; but otherwise, they live a very happy, easy, and plentiful

Life ; being furnished upon the Foot of the Foundation, besides their Ecclesiastical Stipends.

In the Beginning of the Year 1738. they began to pull down the old *Gothic* Chapel belonging to the Bishop's Palace at *Hereford*, in order to erect a Pile in a politer Taste, for the public Service. The demolished Chapel was said to be as old as the Conquest.

Between *Leominster* and this City is another *Hampton-Court*, the Seat of the late Earl of *Coningsby*. That Lord was, from an *Irish* Peer, made an *English* one, by his late Majesty King *George I.* And having no Son, his Daughter was created by the same Prince, in the Life-time of her Father, Baroness and Viscountess *Coningsby* of *Hampton-Court*, in order that her Descendants might be intitled to a Peerage. She married Sir *Michael Newton*, Bart. and a Knight of the Bath. This is a fine Seat built by *Henry Bolingbroke* Duke of *Lancaster*, afterwards King *Henry IV.* in the Form of a Castle, situate in a Valley upon a rapid River, under Coverture of *Brynmaur*. The Gardens are very pleasant, terminated by vast Woods covering all the sloping Side of the Hill. There is a plentiful Supply of Water, on all Sides of the House, for Fountains, Basins, and Canals. Within, are excellent Pictures of the Earl's Ancestors and others, by *Holben*, *Dobson*, *Vandyke*, Sir *P. Lully*, &c. an Original of the Founder King *Henry IV.* of Queen *Elizabeth*, the Duchess of *Portsmouth*, &c.

The Windows of the Chapel are well painted : there are some Statues of the *Coningsbies*.

Here are Two new Stone Stair-cases, after a geometrical Method. The Record-room is at-top of a Tower arched with Stone, paved with *Roman* Brick, and has an Iron Door. From the Top of the House goes a Stair-case, which, they say, has a subterraneous Conveyance into *Brynmaur* Wood.

The

The Park is very fine, Eight Miles in Circumference, and contains about 1200 Head of Deer. There are extensive Prospects on one Side reaching into *Wiltshire*, on the other over the *Welsh* Mountains; Lawns, Groves, Canals, Hills, and Plains. There is a Pool Three Quarters of a Mile long, very broad, and included between Two great Woods. The Dam, which forms it, and is made over a Valley, cost 800 *l.* and was finished in a Fortnight by 200 Hands. A new River is cut quite through the Park, the Chanel of which, for a long Way together, is hewn out of the Rock. This serves to enrich vast Tracts of Lands, which before were barren. Here also are new Gardens and Canals laid out, and new Plantations of Timber in proper Places.

Warrens, Decoys, Sheep-walks, Pastures for Cattle, &c. supply the House with all Sorts of Conveniencies and Necessaries, without having recourse to a Market.

Westward of *Hereford*, the *Golden Vale* before-mentioned extends itself along the River *Dore*, which runs through the midst of it, and is called by the *Britons*, *Duffrin-Dore*: it is called the *Golden Vale*, from its pleasant Fertility in the Spring, when it is covered over with a yellow Livery of Flowers. It is encompassed with Hills, which are crowned with Woods.

From *Hereford*, upon a very fine Stone-causeway of near a Mile long, made within a few Years past, we came to *Ross*, famous for Cyder, a great Manufacture of Iron-ware, and its Trade on the River *Wye*. It is a fine old Town, and has a very handsome Church in it.

From hence we came at about Eight Miles more into *Monmouthshire*, formerly a *Welsh*, but now, an *English*, County, and to the Town of *Monmouth*. It

is a Place of great Antiquity, and is fair, large, and well-built, situate at the Conflux of the *Wye* and *Munnow*, whence the Town has its Name; it stands in the Angle where the Rivers join, and has a Bridge over each River, and a third over the River *Trothy*, which comes in just below the other.

This Town returns Two Representatives to Parliament; it shews Marks of great Antiquity; and, by the Remains of Walls, Lines, Curtins, and Bastions, that it has been very strong; and, by its Situation, that it may be made so again. It is a Borough-town, governed by Two Bailiffs, Common-council-men, and Town-clerk. It has a very considerable Corn-market. It was famed for the Strength of the Castle in the Time of *William I.* and is the Birth-place of our renowned King *Henry V.* Conqueror of *France*; and likewise of one of our antient Historians, *Jeoffry of Monmouth*, a fabulous Writer. At present 'tis not very flourishing; yet it drives a considerable Trade with the City of *Bristol*, by the Navigation of the *Wye*.

This River, having received Two large Streams, the *Munnow* and the *Trothy*, becomes a very noble River; and with a deep Chanel, and a full Current, hurried away towards the Sea, carrying also Vessels of a considerable Burden hereabouts.

Near *Monmouth*, the Duke of *Beaufort* has a fine Seat, called *Troy-house*.

Lower down, upon the *Wye*, in this Shire, stand *Chepstow*, the Sea-port for all the Towns seated on this River, and the *Lug*, and where their Commerce seems to centre. Hither Ships of good Burden may come up, and the Tide runs with the same impetuous Current as at *Bristol*; the Flood rising ordinarily from Six Fathom to Six and an half at *Chepstow* Bridge, which is a very noble one, built of Timber, and not less than 70 Feet high from the Surface of the Water when the Tide is out. And that this was not a need-

less Height, was evident in *January* 1738. when the Water rose at the Bridge upwards of 70 Feet, and very much damaged it: One Man lost above 130 Head of Cattle, which, with other Damages it did there, and in the adjacent Places, were computed at Seven or 8000 *l.* *Chepstow* has a well frequented Market, especially for Corn. The Bridge, as half of it is in *Gloucestershire*, is maintained at the Expence of both Counties.

Two Miles from this Town is the famous Passage over the *Severn*, on this Side called *Beachly*, and on the other *Aust*, as I have mentioned *p.* 305. Here *Offa's* Dyke begins, and, passing through *Radnorshire* extends itself up to *Flintshire*, and so to the River *Dee*, which parts *Wales* from *Cheshire*.

We turned Northwards, and arrived at *Abergavenny*, which is a large well-built and well-inhabited Market-town, situate at the Mouth of the *Gavenny*, running into the *Ujk*. It carries on a considerable Trade in Flannels, which the Country-people manufacture at home, and bring hither to sell. It is a great Thoroughfare from the Western Parts of *Wales* to *Bristol* and *Bath* by *Chepstow*, and to *Gloucester* by *Monmouth*; and so crossing the River through *Colford*, and the Forest of *Dean*.

The Fuel in this County is Pit-coal, and is very cheap, insomuch that they sell an Horse-load for Two-pence, at the Pit-mouth; and 'tis common in the meanest Cot to see a good Fire.

Great Quantities of Corn are exported out of this County; and 'tis frequent, that the *Bristol* Merchants send their Ships hither to load for *Portugal*, and other foreign Countries. And indeed it is noted for producing as good Wheat and other Grain, as any County in the Kingdom; and yet it is very surprising, that Lands here never sell for more than 20 or 21 Years Purchase. The current Language of the

County is *Welsh* among the Vulgar; but the Gentlemen speak *English* generally.

As I am now just upon entering *Wales*, I will conclude this Letter with assuring you, that I am,

S I R,

Yours, &c.



L E T-



LETTER VI.

CONTAINING

*A Description of the greatest Part of the
Principality of WALES.*

S I R,



Thought I should not pay the Principality the Respect it so well deserves, if I did not begin a Letter with the Description of it ; it being the Country of that brave People, who had an original Right to the whole Island, and made so noble a Stand in Defence of their Liberties and Independency ; and, at last, rather than submit to a foreign Yoke, chose to be free in this remote and inaccessible Part of it.

But here let me premise, that *Wales* is represented in the *British* Parliament by 24 Members. The Counties and Towns which return them will be particulariz'd in the general List, which I shall present you with at the End of my Tour thro' this Southern Part of the Island (a).

The Two first Counties which border West upon *Monmouthshire* are *Brecknock* and *Glamorgan*, and are

(a) See at the Conclusion of Vol. III.

very mountainous on the East Side, which gives a Traveller a terrible Apprehension of the Country he is this Way entering into, and an Expectation of meeting with nothing that is agreeable ; but he is not long before he is undeceived, and finds the Reward of his Trouble. In that Part of *Monmouthshire* which joins the Two Counties, begins the Rising of the Hills. *Kyrton-Beacon*, *Tumberlow*, *Blorenb*, *Penvail*, and *Skirridan*, are some of the Names of these horrid Mountains, and are all in this Shire ; and I could not but fancy myself in View of *Mount Brennus*, *Little-Barnard*, and *Great-Barnard*, among the *Alps*.

We now entered *South-Wales* ; which contains the Shires of *Glamorgan*, *Brecknock*, *Radnor*, *Caermarthen*, *Pembroke*, and *Cardigan*.

Brecknockshire is a mere inland County, as *Radnor* is ; the *English* jestingly (and I think not very improperly) call it *Break-neck-shire* : 'tis mountainous to an Extremity, except on the Side of *Radnor*, where it is something more low and level. It is well watered by the *Wye*, and the *Usk*, Two Rivers mentioned before. Upon the latter stands the Town of *Brecknock*, the Capital of the County, well-built, and the Assizes are kept at it. It is very antient, and indeed, to mention it here once for all, there are more Tokens of Antiquity to be seen every-where in *Wales*, than in any Part whatever of *England*, except the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*. Here we saw *Brecknock-mere*, a large or long Lake of Water, Two or Three Miles over ; of which they have a great many Fables, not worth relating : the best of them is, that a certain River, called *Lheweni*, runs thro' it, and keeps its Colour in Midchannel, distinguished from the Water of the Lake, and, as they say, never mingles with it. They take abundance of good Fish in this Lake, so that, like the River *Theisse* in *Hungary*, they say it is Two-thirds Water,

Water, and One-third Fish. The Country-people affirm, that once a City stood here; but that, by the Judgment of Heaven, for the Sins of its Inhabitants, it sunk into the Earth, and the Water rose up in the Place of it. I observe the same Story is mentioned by Mr. *Camden*, with some Difference in the Particulars: I believe my Share of it; but 'tis remarkable, that Mr. *Camden*, having lost the old City *Loventium*, mentioned by *Ptolemy* to be hereabouts, is willing to account for it by this odd Story.

It was among the Mountains of this County that the famous *Glendower* sheltered himself, and, taking Arms on the deposing *Richard II.* proclaimed himself Prince of *Wales*: they shew us several little Refuges of his in the Mountains, whither he retreated; and from whence, again, he made such bold Excursions into *England*, as to have put *Henry IV.* to very great Difficulties.

Tho' this County be so mountainous, Provisions are exceeding plentiful, and also very good, all over the Country; nor are these Mountains useless, even to the City of *London*, as I have noted of other Counties; for from hence they send yearly great Herds of Black Cattle to *England*, and which are known to fill our Fairs and Markets, even that of *Smithfield* itself.

The yellow Mountains of *Radnorshire* are the same, and their Product of Cattle is the same; nor did I meet with any-thing worth noticing, except Monuments of Antiquity. The Stories of *Vortigern*, and *Roger of Mortimer*, are in every old Woman's Mouth here. Here is a great Cataract or Water-fall of the River *Wye*, at a Place called *Rhajadr-Gwy* in *Welsh*, which signifies the Cataract or Water-fall of the *Wye*; but we did not go to see it, by reason there was a great Flood out at that time, which made the Way dangerous. There seemed to us a kind of Desert too, on that Side, which is scarce passable by Strangers; so

we made it our North Boundary for this Part of our Journey.

We shall only add, That *Radnor* is the Shire-town, and hath a Castle; that *Presteigne* in *Radnorshire* is a well-built Town, and the Affizes are held there.

Entering *Glamorganshire*, from *Radnor* and *Brecknock*, we beheld *Monuchdenny-hill* on our Left, and the *Black Mountains* on the Right, and all a Ridge of horrid Rocks and Precipices between, over which, if we had not had good Guides, we should never have found our Way; and indeed we began to repent our Curiosity, in going out of the common Road, as not having met with any-thing worth the Trouble; and the Country looking so full of Horror, we thought to have given over the Enterprize, and have left *Wales* out of our Circuit: but after a Day and a Night engaging thus with Rocks and Mountains, our Guide brought us down into a most agreeable Vale, opening to the South, and a pleasant River running thro' it, called *The Taaffe*; and following its Course, we came to a famous Spring of warm Water, called *Taaffe-Well*, and rising up in a dry Shole under the Northern Bank of the River. Four Miles farther we passed thro' the antient City of *Landaff*; and in the Evening arrived at *Cardiff*, a *Welsh* Mile beyond it.

Landaff in *Glamorganshire* is the Seat of the Episcopal See, and a City; but so small, that it has not a Market; but *Caerdiff*, which is lower on the River, is the Port and Town of Trade; and has a very good Harbour opening into the *Severn* Sea.

The Cathedral is a neat Building, and very antient. They boast that this Church was an House of Religious Worship many Years before any other was founded in the Island; and that the Christian Religion flourished in its primitive Purity, from the Year 186. till the *Pelagian* Heresy overspread this Country; which being afterwards rooted out, they placed *St. Dobricius*, as the
first

first Bishop, in this Town of *Landaff*, then called *Launton*. The Bishop of *Landaff* had formerly the Title of Archbishop: the Three first Bishops were afterwards sainted for their eminent Holiness of Life, and the Miracles they are said to have wrought. 'Tis observable the Cathedral was antiently but 20 Feet long, and 10 broad, and had neither Steeple nor Bells; nor had they any other Cathedral from the Year 386. to the Year 1107. when Bishop *Urban* built the present Church, with some Houses for the Clergy adjoining, in the Nature of a Cloister.

Though the Church is antient, yet the Building is good, and the Choir neat, and pretty well kept.

The South Part of *Glamorganshire* is pleasant, agreeable, and very populous, insomuch that it is called *The Garden of Wales*. Its Soil is fertile and rich, and the low Grounds are so well covered with Grass, and stocked with Cattle, that they supply the City of *Bristol* with Butter in very great Quantities, salted and barreled up, just as *Suffolk* does the City of *London*.

Caerphylly Castle in *Glamorganshire* is one of the noblest Pieces of Ruins in the whole Island. It was larger than any Castle in *England*, that of *Windsor* excepted; and, from what remains of it, was as beautiful in its Architecture, as it is remarkable in its Ruins; among which a round Tower, split in the Middle, and one Half fallen quite down, the other Half leaning so as to overhang its Basis more than Nine Feet, is as great a Curiosity as the celebrated leaning Tower of *Pisa* in *Italy*.

Neath is a Port where the Coal-trade is pretty considerable, though it stands up within Land.

Swanzy is also a Sea-port, and a very considerable Town for Trade, with a very good Harbour. Here is also a very great Trade for Coals and Culm, which they export to all the Ports of *Somerset*, *Devon*, and *Cornwall*, and even to *Ireland*; so that sometimes may be seen an hundred Sail of Ships at a time loading Coals here; which greatly enriches the Country, and parti-

cularly this Town; it stands on the River *Twy*, or *Taw*. 'Tis very remarkable, that most of the Rivers in this Country chime upon the Letters *T* and *T*, as *Taaf*, *Tawy*, *Tuy*, *Towy*, *Tyvy*.

There are lately Mineral Waters found out at *Swanzy*, which are reported to be of great Efficacy in Fluxes and Hæmorrhages of all Sorts. Consumptions, if not too far gone, Diabetes, Palsies, Rheumatisms, Dropsies, and other Distempers, are said to fall before these Styptic and Restorative Waters. They may certainly have very good Effects in many difficult Cases; but it is doing an Injury to the Reputation of any Medicine in the World, to make it a *Catholicon*, and good for every thing.

Kynfig-Castle is now the Seat and Estate of the Lord *Mansel*, who has here also a very noble Income from the Collieries; which formerly denominated Sir *Edward Mansel* one of the richest Commoners in *Wales*. The Family was ennobled by her late Majesty Queen *Anne*.

In this Neighbourhood, near *Margan Mynydd*, we saw the famous Monument mentioned by Mr. *Camden*, on an Hill, with the Inscription, which the Vulgar are so terrified at, that nobody cares to read it; for they have a Tradition from Father to Son, that whoever ventures to read it will die within a Month. We did not scruple the Adventure; but when we came to try, the Letters were so defaced by Time, that we were effectually secured from the Danger; the Inscription not being any thing near so legible, as it seems it was in Mr. *Camden*'s Time.

The Stone Pillar is about Four or Five Feet high, and one Foot thick, standing on the Top of this Hill: there are several other such Monuments in *Radnorshire*, and other Counties in *Wales*, as likewise in *Scotland*.

Having thus touched on what is most curious on this Coast, we passed through the Land of *Gowre*; and going

ing still West, we came to *Caermarthen*, or *Kaer-Vyrdhin*, as the *Welsh* call it, the Capital of the County of *Kaermardhinshire*.

This is an antient and a very handsome Town, pleasantly situated on the River *Towy*, which is navigable up to the Town, for Vessels of a moderate Burden, and over which is a large Bridge. The Town is well-built, and populous; it is lately much increased, and is still increasing; and the Country round it is the most fruitful of any Part of *Wales*, and continues to be so through all the Middle of the County, and a great Way into the next; nor is this County so mountainous and wild as the rest of this Part of *Wales*: but it abounds in Corn, and in fine flourishing Meadows, as good as are most in *Britain*, and in which are fed a very great Number of good Cattle.

The Chancery and Exchequer, for the South Part of the Principality, were usually kept at this Town, till the Jurisdiction of the Court and Marches of *Wales* was taken away. This Town was also famous for the Birth of the old *British* Prophet, *Merlin*, of whom so many things are fabled, and who flourished in the Year 480. and here also the old *Britons* often kept their Parliaments, or Assemblies of their wise Men, and made their Laws. The Town was fortified in former Times, but the Walls are not to be seen now, and scarcely the Ruins of them. The People in this Town and County are reckoned the wealthiest and politest in *Wales*.

Here we saw near *Kily-Maen Llwyd*, on a great Mountain, a Circle of mighty Stones, very much like *Stone-henge* in *Wiltshire*, or rather like the *Rollrich* Stones in *Oxfordshire*; and though the People call it *Bruarth Arthur*, or *King Arthur's Throne*, we see no Reason to believe, that it had any relation to him.

The next County, West, is *Pembrokeshire*, the most extreme Part of *Wales* on this Side. It is a rich, fertile,

tile, and plentiful Country, lying on the Sea-coast, where it has the Benefit of *Milford-Haven*, one of the greatest and best Ports in *Britain*. Mr. *Camden* says, it contains 16 Creeks, Five great Bays, and 13 good Roads for Shipping, all distinguished as such by their Names; and, some say, a thousand Sail of Ships may ride in it.

Part of *Pembrokeshire* is inhabited by the Descendents of the *Flemings*, placed there by King *Henry I.* and that County is called, *Little England beyond Wales*.

Before we quitted the Coast, we saw *Tenbigh*, the most agreeable Town on all the Sea-coast of *South-Wales*, except *Pembroke*, being a very good Road for Shipping, and well frequented. Here is a great Fishery for Herring in its Season, a great Colliery, or rather Export of Coals; and they also drive a very considerable Trade to *Ireland*.

From hence, the Land, bearing far into the Sea, makes a Promontory, called *St. Goven's-Head*, or *Point*. But as we found nothing of Moment there, we crossed over the Isthmus to *Pembroke*, which stands on the East Shore of the great Haven of *Milford*.

This is the largest and richest, and at this time the most flourishing Town of *South-Wales*, except *Caermarthen*. Here are a great many Gentlemen and Merchants, and some of the latter are Men of good Business; and they told us, there were near 200 Sail of Ships belonged to the Town, small and great: in a Word, all this Part of *Wales* is a rich and flourishing Country, very pleasant, fertile, and well cultivated.

This is the Place also made particularly famous for the Landing of King *Henry VII.* then Earl of *Richmond*.

From hence, being resolved to see the utmost Extent of the County, West, we ferried over the Haven, and went to *Haverford*, by some called *Haverford-West*, a County in itself; and from thence to *St. David's*. *Haverford*

verford is a good Town, strong, well-built, clean, and populous.

From hence to *St. David's*, the Country begins to look dry, barren, and mountainous.

St. David's is now a Bishop's See only, but was formerly an Archbishop's, which was transferred to *Dole* in *Britany*, where it still remains.

The venerable Aspect of this Cathedral Church shews, that it has been a beautiful Building. The West-end or Body of the Church is tolerable; the Choir is kept neat; the South Isle without the Choir, and the Virgin *Mary's* Chapel, which makes the East-end of the Church, are in a manner demolished, and the Roofs of both fallen in.

There have been a great many eminent Persons bury'd here, besides such whose Monuments are defaced by Time. Here is *St. David's* Monument, to whom the Church is dedicated, the Monument of the Earl of *Richmond*, as also of the famous *Owen Tudor*: here are also Four antient Monuments of Knights-Templars, known by their Figures lying cross-legged; but their Names are not known; and there are Six several Monuments of Bishops, who presided over this Church, besides *St. David*.

This Saint, they tell us, was Uncle to King *Arthur*; that he lived to 146 Years of Age, being born in the Year 496. and died *Anno* 642. that he was Bishop of this Church Sixty-five Years, that he built Twelve Monasteries, and performed abundance of Miracles.

There was a very handsome House for the Bishop, with a College, all built in a Close by themselves; but they are now in Ruins.

Here, the Weather being very clear, we had a full View of *Ireland*, though at a very great Distance. The Land here is called *St. David's-Head*. They reckon up 105 Bishops of this See, since it began, to the Year 1751.

From

From hence we turned North, keeping the Sea in our West Prospect, and a rugged mountainous Country on the East, where the Hills even darkened the Air with their Height. As we went on, we passed by *Newport*, on the River *NeVERN*, a Town having a good Harbour, and consequently a good Trade with *Ireland*.

Here we left *Pembrokeshire*, and after about 22 Miles came to *Cardigan*, a well-inhabited Town, on the River *Tyvy*, over which it has a fair Stone Bridge: 'tis a very noble River, and famous for its Plenty of the best and largest Salmon in *Britain*.

The Country-people told us, that they had formerly Beavers here, which bred in the Lakes among the Mountains, and, coming down the Stream of *Tyvy*, destroyed the young Fry of Salmon; and therefore the Country-people destroyed them. We thought they only meant the Otter, till I found afterwards, that Mr. *Camden* mentions also, that there had been Beavers seen here formerly.

The Town of *Cardigan* was once possessed by the great *Robert Fitz-Stephen*, who was the first *Briton* that ever attempted the Conquest of *Ireland*; and had such Success, with an Handful of Men, as afterwards gave the *English* a Footing there, which they never quitted, till they quite reduced the Country, and made it, as it were, a Province to *England*.

The Town is large, populous, has a fair Church, and is walled about, and fortified with a Castle; but that Part is now not much minded. It has a good Trade with *Ireland*, and is enriched very much, as is all this Part of the Country, by the famous Lead-Mines, formerly discovered by Sir *Carbery Price*, which are the greatest, and perhaps the richest, in *England*; and particularly as they require so little Labour and Charge to come at the Ore, which in many Places lies within a Fathom or Two of the Surface, and in some even
bare

bare to the very Top. There are also Silver-Mines in this County.

Going North from the *Tyvy* about 25 Miles, we came to *Aberystwith*, that is to say, the Town at the Mouth of the River *Ystwith*. It is a populous, but a dark, smoaky Place; and we fancied the People looked as if they had lived continually in Coal or Lead-Mines. However, they are rich; but have no Coal-pits.

The County of *Cardigan* is in no-wise comparable to either of those *Welsh* Counties which we have already passed through, there being a great deal of barren Lands in it. However, it is so full of Cattle, that 'tis said to be the Nursery, or Breeding-place, for the whole Kingdom of *England*, South of *Trent*: but this is not a Proof of its Fertility; for though the Feeding of Cattle indeed requires a rich Soil, the Breeding them does not, the Mountains and Moors being as proper for that Purpose as richer Land.

Now we entered *North Wales*; only I should add, that, as we passed, we had a Sight of the famous *Plymlymon-Hill*, out of the East-side of which rise the *Severn* and the *Wye*; and out of the West-side of it rise the *Ryddal* and the *Ystwith*. This Mountain is exceeding high: but *Snowden* in *Caernarvonshire* is by much the highest in *Wales*, or any other Part of *Great Britain*; having an unbounded Prospect over the *Isle of Man* into *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and over the *Welsh* Mountains into *England*. This Prospect is only to be seen about *Simpel*, and then not often; many having fatigued themselves in getting to the Top, and returned disappointed by the Fogs residing below. Nor is the Country, for Twenty Miles round it, any thing but a continued Ridge of Mountains; so that for a few Days we seemed to be conversing in the upper Regions; for we were often above the Clouds a great Way; and the Names of some of these Hills seemed as barbarous to us, who spoke no *Welsh*, as the Hills themselves.

Passing these Mountains North, we entered *North-Wales*, which contains the Counties of *Montgomery*, *Merioneth*, *Caernarvon*, *Denbeigh*, and *Flint Shires*, and the Isle of *Anglesea*.

In passing *Montgomeryshire*, we were so tired with Hills and Mountains, that we wished heartily we had kept close to the Sea-shore; but we had not much mended the matter, if we had, as I understood afterwards. The River *Severn* is the principal Beauty of this County, which rising out of the *Plymlymon* Mountain, as I have said, receives in a short Course so many other Rivers into its Bosom, that it becomes navigable before it gets out of the County, at *Welsh-Pool*, on the Edge of *Shropshire*.

Montgomery is a fashionable Place, and has many fair Dwellings in it, and some very good Families.

The Vales and Meadows upon the Banks of the *Severn* are exceedingly ornamental and profitable; and 'tis said, that the Water of the *Severn*, like that of the *Nile*, when it overflows, impregnates the Valleys by the Slime it leaves behind it: all the Country is very fruitful, where-ever this River runs. The Town of *Montgomery* lies not far from this River, on the outer Edge of the County, next to *Herefordshire*. This was, it seems, a great Frontier Town in the Wars between the *English* and *Welsh*, and was beautified and fortified by King *Henry III.* but it is not now so very considerable, though a good Town still, pleasantly situated, and has a Castle.

This County has been long noted for an excellent Breed of *Welsh* Horses, which, though not very large, are exceeding valuable, and much esteemed all over *England*. All the North and West Part of the County is mountainous and stony. We saw a great many old Monuments in this County, and *Roman* Camps where-ever we came; and especially, if we met any Persons
curious

curious in such things, we found they had many *Roman Coins*.

Merionethshire, or *Merionydshire*, lies West from *Montgomeryshire* on the *Irish Sea*, or rather the Ocean; for *St. George's Chanel* does not begin till farther North; and it is extended on the Coast for near 35 Miles in Length, all still mountainous and craggy. The principal River is the *Towy*, which rises among the unpassable Mountains, which range along the Centre of this Part of *Wales*, and which we look at with Astonishment, for their prodigious Height. Some of the Hills have particular Names, but otherwise we call them all, *The Black Mountains*; and they well deserve the Name. Some think 'tis from the unpassable Mountains of this County, that we have an old Saying, That the Devil lives in the *Middle of Wales*, though I know there is another Meaning given to it: in a word, Mr. *Camden* calls these Parts, *The Alps of Wales*.

There are but few large Towns in all this Part; nor is it very populous; much of it being scarce habitable; but 'tis said, there are more Sheep in it, than in all the rest of *Wales*. On the Sea-shore, however, we saw *Harleigh*, or *Harlech-Castle*, which is still a Garrison, and kept for the Guard of the Coast; but 'tis of no other Strength, than what its Situation gives it.

In the Middle of these vast Mountains (and forming a very large Lake; viz. near its first Sources) rises the River *Dee*, of which I shall speak again in its proper Place.

Here, among almost innumerable Summits, and rising Peaks of nameless Hills, we saw the famous *Kader-Idricks*, which, some are of Opinion, is the highest Mountain in *Britain*; another, called *Rarauvaur*; another, called *Mowwywynda*; and still every Hill we saw we thought higher than all that ever we had seen before.

We

We inquired here after that strange Phænomenon, which was not only seen, but fatally experienced, by the Country round this Place; namely, of a livid Fire, coming off from the Sea, and setting on fire Houses, Barns, Stacks of Hay and Corn, and poisoning the Herbage in the Field; of which there is a full Account given in the *Philosophical Transactions*: and as we had it confirmed by the general Voice of the People, I shall take notice, That the *Transactions* particularly observe, that the Eclipses of the Sun in *Aries* have been very fatal to this Place; and that the Years 1542. and 1567. when the Sun was eclipsed in that Sign, it suffered very much by Fire; and after the latter Eclipse of the Two, the Fire spread so far, that about 200 Houses in the Town and Suburbs of *Caernarvon* were consumed.

This mountainous Country runs away North through *Merionethshire*, and almost through *Caernarvonshire*, where *Snowden-hill*, of a monstrous Height, according to its Name, had Snow on the Top in the Beginning of *June*; but it does not continue the Year round, as some have asserted.

These unpassable Heights were doubtless the Refuges of the *Britons*, when, in their continual Wars with the *Romans* and *Saxons*, they were overpowered.

That Side of the County of *Caernarvon*, which borders on the Sea, is not so mountainous, and is both more fertile, and more populous. The principal Place in this Part is *Caernarvon*, a good Town, with a Castle built by *Edward I.* to curb and reduce the wild People of the Mountains, and secure the Passage into *Anglesea*. That Prince also kept his Court often here; and here his Son and Successor, *Edward II.* was born, who was therefore called *Edward of Caernarvon*. This *Edward* was the first of the Sons of the Kings of *England* vested with the Title of Prince of *Wales*: and here were kept the Chancery and Exchequer of the Princes of *Wales*, for the North Part of the Principality, as it was at

Caermarthen

Caermarthen for the South Part. It is a small, but strong Town, clean and well-built; and, considering the Place, the People are very courteous and obliging to Strangers. It is seated on the Firth or Inlet called *Meneu*, parting the Isle of *Anglesea*, or *Mona*, from the main Land; and here is a Ferry over to the Island, called *Abermenay-Ferry*: and from thence a direct Road to *Holyhead*, whither we went for no other Purpose, than to have another View of *Ireland*; though we were disappointed, the Weather being bad and stormy.

Whoever travels critically over these Mountains of *South-Wales* and *Merionethshire*, will think *Stone-henge* in *Wiltshire*, and *Rollrich Stones* in *Oxfordshire*, no more Wonders, seeing there are so many such in these Provinces, that they are not thought strange at all; nor is it doubted, but they were generally Monuments of the Dead; as also are the single Stones of immense Bulk, of which we saw so many, that we gave over remarking them. Some measured from Seven, Eight, to 10, and One 16 Feet high, being a whole Stone, but so great, that the most of the Wonder is, where they were found, and how dragged to the Place; since, besides the steep Ascents to some of the Hills on which they stand, it would be hardly possible to move some of them now with 50 Yoke of Oxen. And yet a great many of these Stones are found confusedly lying one upon another on the utmost Summit or Top of the *Glyder*, and other Hills in *Merioneth* or *Caernarvonshire*; to which it is next to impossible that all the Power of Art, and Strength of Man and Beast, could carry them; and the Vulgar make no Difficulty of saying, The Devil set them up there.

One of these monumental Stones is to be seen a little Way from *Harleigh-Castle*: it is a large Stone lying flat, supported by Three other Stones at Three of the Four Angles, though the Stone is rather oval than square; it is almost 11 Feet long, the Breadth unequal; but in some Places it is from Seven to Eight Feet broad,
and

and it may be supposed has been both longer and broader 'tis in some Places about Two Feet thick, but in other 'tis worn almost to an Edge by Time. The Three Stones that support it are about 20 Inches square; 'tis supposed there have been Four, Two of which, that support the thickest End, are near Eight Feet high, the other not above Three Feet, being supposed to be settled in the Ground, so that the Stone lies sloping, like the Roof of a Barn. There is another of these to be seen in the Isle of *Anglesea*; the flat Stone is much larger and thicker than this; but we did not go to see it. There are also Two Circles of Stones in that Island, such as *Stone-henge*, but larger.

This is a particular kind of Monument, and therefore I took notice of it; but the others are generally single Stones of vast Magnitude, set up on one End, Column-wise, which, being so very large, are likely to remain till the End of Time: but are generally without any Inscription, or regular Shape, or any Mark, to intimate for whom, or for what, they were so placed.

These Mountains are indeed so like the *Alps*, that, except the Language of the People, one could hardly avoid thinking he is passing from *Grenoble* to *Susa*, or rather through the Country of the *Grisons*. The Lakes also, which are so numerous here, make the Similitude the greater: nor are the Fables which the Country-people tell of those Lakes much unlike the Stories which we meet with among the *Switzers*, of the famous Lakes in their Country. Mr. *Camden's* Continuator tells us of 50 or 60 Lakes in *Caernarvonshire* only. We did not count them; but I believe, if we had, we should have found them to be more, rather than less.

Here we meet with the Char-fish, the same Kind which we saw in *Lancashire*, and also in the Lakes of *Switzerland*, and no-where else, that I have heard of, in *Europe*. The *Welsh* call it the *Torgoch*.

In a large Lake in this County, called by the Inhabitants *Lbyn-Tegid*, there is a Fish taken called *Gwiniad*, or fresh-water Whiting, which is not found in any other Water in *Britain*, but is also common in the Lake of *Geneva*, and some others in *Switzerland*. This Fish greatly resembles a Whiting in its outward Appearance, but the Inside is more like an Herring. The River *Dee*, which rises above this Lake, runs through it; yet, it is very remarkable, none of these Fish are ever found in the River; and, on the contrary, neither Trout nor Salmon are ever seen in this Lake; yet the River on both Sides abounds with them.

There is nothing of Note to be seen in the Isle of *Anglesea*, but the Town and the Castle of *Beaumaris*, which was also built by King *Edward I.* and called *Beau-marsh*, or the *fine Plain*; for here the Country is very level and plain, and the Land is fruitful and pleasant. The Castle was very large, as may be seen by its Remains; and that it was strong, the Situation will tell also; but it is now of no Use.

As we went to *Holyhead*, by the South Part of the Island from *Newborough*, and came back through the Middle by *Beaumaris*, we saw the whole Extent of it; and indeed it is a much pleasanter Country than any Part of *North-Wales* that we had yet seen; and particularly is very fruitful in Corn and Cattle.

Here we crossed the *Streight of Meneu* again, and came to *Bangor*, at the Place where King *Edward I.* intended to have built a great Stone Bridge: but though the King was very positive in his Design for a great while, yet he was prevailed with at last to decline it; possibly on account of the Expence.

Bangor is a Town noted for its Antiquity. It is a Bishop's See, but has an old, mean-looking, and almost despicable, Cathedral Church.

This

This Church boasts of being one of the most antient in *Britain*, the People say, the most antient; and that St. *Daniel* (to whom it is dedicated) was first Bishop here, in the Year 512. They allow that the Pagans, perhaps of *Anglesea*, ruined the Church, and possessed the Bishoprick after it was built, for above One hundred Years; nor is there any Account of it from the Year 512. to 1009. After this, the Bishoprick was again ruined by one of its own Bishops whose Name was *Bulkeley*, who, as the *Monasticon* says, not only sold the Revenues, but even the very Bells; for which Sacrilege, it is said, he was struck blind.

It is certainly at present no rich Bishoprick; yet the Bishops are generally allowed to hold some other good Benefice *in Commendam*; and the Preferment seems to be a grateful Introduction to the Clergy, as the Bishops are generally translated from hence to a more profitable See.

From *Bangor* we went North (keeping the Sea on our Left-hand) to *Conway*. This is the poorest, but pleasantest Town in all this County for the Bigness of it; it is seated on the Bank of a fine River, which is not only pleasant and beautiful, but is a noble Harbour for Ships, had they any Occasion for them there: the Stream is deep and safe, and the River broad, as the *Thames* at *Deptford*: it only wants a Trade suitable to so good a Port; for it infinitely outdoes *Chester*, and *Liverpool* too.

In this Passage, we went over the famous Precipice called *Penmaen-maur*, which I think Fame has made abundantly more frightful than it is; for though the Rock is indeed very high, and, if any one should fall from it, he would be dashed in Pieces, yet, on the other hand, there is no Danger of it, a Range of Stones being raised all the Way, on the Edge of the Precipice, to secure Passengers: those who have been at the Hill or Pass of *Enterkin* in *Scotland*, know very well the Danger there.

is much greater than here; and the frequent Loss of Lives, both of Man and Horse, will testify the same.

We have but little remarkable in the Road from *Conway* to *Holywell*, but Craggs and Rocks all along the North Shore of *Denbeigh*, till we came to *Denbeigh*, the County-town, in which is a Castle, formerly of great Strength, but now in Ruins. From the Walls is a very good Prospect of the Vale and Sea; here is a good Free-Grammar-school for 20 Boys well endowed.

From hence we made an Excursion to *Ruthin* a neat and pleasant Town, situate on the Banks of the River *Clwyd*, about Five Miles South-east of *Denbeigh*. The Castle was formerly of great Strength, but is now in Ruins. Here is a good Corn-market on *Mondays*. The Free-school is a very handsome Building, and was well endowed by *Gabriel Goodman*, Dean of *Westminster*, born at *Llanbrychan* near this Town. Its present flourishing Condition is chiefly owing to the Diligence of the learned Mr. *Hughes*, the present Master.

The Town is large and populous, and has a good Trade carried on by Tanners and Glovers. This Town bears something in its Countenance of its Neighbourhood to *England*; but that which was most surprising, after such a tiresome and fatiguing Journey over the inhospitable Mountains of *Merioneth* and *Caernarvonshire*, was, that, descending now from the Hills, we came into a most pleasant, fruitful, populous, and delicious Vale, called the Vale of *Clwyd*, from the River of the same Name, full of Villages and Towns, the Fields shining with Corn, just ready for the Reapers, the Meadows green and flowery, and a fine River, of a mild and gentle Stream, running through it: nor is it a small or casual Intermision, but we had a Prospect of the Country open before us for above 20 Miles in Length, and from Five to Seven Miles in Breadth, all smiling with the same kind of Complexion; which made

us think ourselves in *England* again, by the agreeable Change of Climate.

In this pleasant Vale, turning North from *Denbeigh*, and following the Stream of the River, we came to *St. Asaph*, in *Flintshire*, a small City, with a Cathedral, being a Bishoprick of tolerable good Value, though the Church is old: it is but a poor Place, and ill-built, although the Country is so pleasant and rich all round it. There are some old Monuments in this Church; but none of any Note; nor could we read the *Welsh* Inscriptions.

From hence we came to *Holywell*: the Story of it is, that, the pious Virgin *St. Winifrid* being ravished and murdered, this healing Water sprung out of her Body when buried. The *Romanists* believe it, as is evident, from their thronging hither to receive Benefit from the healing Virtue of the Water, which they do not hope for as medicinal, but as miraculous; and think it heals them by virtue of the Intercession and Influence of this famous Virgin, *St. Winifrid*.

The Chapel dedicated to this holy Virgin is cut out of a solid Rock, and Numbers of Pilgrims resort to it, with great Devotion. Under this Chapel, the Water gushes out into a great Stream, and the Place where it breaks out, is formed like a Basin or Cistern, in which they bathe. The Water is intensely cold, and indeed there is no great Miracle in that Point, considering the Rocks it flows from, where it is impregnated by divers Minerals; the Virtue of which, and not of the Saint, I suppose, works the greatest Part of the Cures, that may be thought to be effected there.

There is a neat well-built Town near the Well, which has a great Market every *Friday*, which may indeed be said to have risen from the Confluence of People thither; for almost all the Houses are either Public-houses, or lett into Lodgings; and the Priests who attend here, and are very numerous, appear in Disguise: some-

times

times they are Physicians, sometimes Surgeons, sometimes Gentlemen, and sometimes Patients, or any thing as Occasion presents. Nobody takes notice of them, as to their Religion, tho' they are well known, no not the *Roman catholics* themselves; but in private they have their proper Oratories in certain Places, whither the Votaries resort; and good Manners have prevailed so far, that no Protestant, let him know what he will, takes notice of it, or inquires whither one goes, or has been gone.

The principal Towns in *Flintshire*, are, 1. *Flint*, the Shire-town, but so small, that it has not a Market. 2. *St. Asaph*, before-mentioned. 3. *Gaerwys*, the chief Market-town of the County.

From hence we passed by *Flint-Castle*, a known Place, but of no Consequence now; and directly to *Wrexham*, deemed the largest Town in *North-Wales*, having heard much of a fine Church there; but we were greatly disappointed. There is indeed a very large Tower or Steeple, as some call it, adorned with Imagery; but far from fine: the Work is mean, the Statues without any Fancy or Spirit; and as the Stone is of a redish, crumbling Kind, like the Cathedral at *Chester*, Time has made it look gross and rough.

There are a great many antient Monuments in this Church, and in the Churchyard also; but none of Note; and almost all the Inscriptions are in *Welsh*. The Church is large; but they must be much mistaken, who tell us 'tis one of the finest in *Britain*; for it falls short in that respect, even of those Churches which are as old as itself.

This Town is large, well-built, and populous; and besides the Church, there are Two large Meeting-houses, in one of which, we were told, they preach in *Welsh* one Part of the Day, and in *English* the other. Here is a great Market for Flannel, which the Factors buy up of the poor *Welsh* People, who manufacture it; and thence it is sent to *London*; and is a considerable Manufacture

through all this Part of the Country, by which the Poor are very profitably employed.

We could not omit seeing the once famous *Bangor*, which *Malmsbury* confounds with the episcopal *Banger*; and were pleased to see there a fine Stone Bridge over the *Dee*. This was once a City, and the Monastery was so famous, that in the Time of the *British* Kings it was said to contain 2400 Monks, who in their Turns (*viz.* 100 each Hour of the 24) reading Prayers and singing Psalms continually, Divine Service was performed Day and Night without Intermission. But now not so much as the Ruins are to be seen: and as all the People in the little Village, that takes place of it, spoke *Welsh*, we could find nobody that could give us any Intelligence. So effectually had Time erased the very Foundations of the Place.

This is said to be the Birth-place of that Arch-heretic *Pelagius*, who from hence began to broach his heretical Opinions, which afterwards so terribly overspread the Church. *Camden* observes, that this *Bangor* is situated in the County of *Flint*.

But before I have intirely done with the Principality, give me leave to observe briefly a few things with relation to this Journey, and the Gentlemen of *Wales*.

Tho' this Journey, and especially over such monstrous Hills and Precipices, as those in *Merioneth*, and some other Shires, was a little heavy to us, yet were we well supported thro' it; for we generally found their Provisions very good and cheap, and pretty good Accommodations in the Inns.

The *Welsh* Gentlemen are very hospitable; and the People in general very obliging and conversable, especially to Strangers. When we let them know we traveled merely in Curiosity to view the Country, their Civility was heightened to such a Degree, that nothing could be more friendly; and they were willing to tell us every

thing that belonged to their Country, and to shew us all that we desired to see.

They value themselves much upon their antient Heroes, as *Caractacus*, *Owen ap Tudor*, Prince *Lewellin*; and particularly upon the Antiquity of their Families; and laugh at a Pedigree that cannot be traced higher than the Conquest. It must be owned, that the Gentlemen justly claim a very antient Descent, and have preserved their Families intire for many Ages. They receive you well into their Houses, treat you very handsomely, are very generous; and, indeed, nothing is wanting within-doors; and, what is more, they have generally very good Estates to support their Hospitality; but they are very jealous of Affronts, and soon provoked to Anger, which is seldom allayed without Satisfaction; and then they become as soon reconciled again.

I will now put an End to this Letter, with assuring you, that I am, &c.





LETTER VII.

CONTAINING

A Description of Part of CHESHIRE,
SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE,
WARWICKSHIRE, NORTHAMP-
TONSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,
and LEICESTERSHIRE.

S I R,



Continued at *Chester* for some time, except that I made Two or Three Excursions into the neighbouring Country, and particularly into that Part of *Shropshire* which I had not viewed as I went; as also into the North and North-west Parts of *Cheshire*. But I should first acquaint you, that *Malpas*, through which I came from *Wales*, is situate on an high Hill, and was formerly strengthened by a Castle, which is now in Ruins. The Church is a stately Building, and stands on the most eminent Part of the Town: it has Two Rectors, who do Duty alternately. The Town consists of Three Streets, and is well paved; has a good Market, a Grammar-school, and an Hospital.

The

The first Trip I made, was into the *Cestrica Chersonesus*, as I think we may properly call it: it is bounded by the Two great Firths, or Arms of the Sea, the one called the Mouth of the *Dee*, and the other of the Two Rivers *Mersey* and *Weaver*, which form it into a Peninsula. It is about 16 Miles long, Six or Seven over; and has not One Market-town in it, though it is exceeding rich and fertile; occasioned possibly by the Neighbourhood of Two such great Towns as *Chester* and *Liverpoole*.

Going down from *Chester*, by the *Rhoo-dee*, as they call it, that is, the Marshes of the River *Dee*, and coasting the River after it is grown broader than the Marshes, the first Place of any Note which we come to is *Nesson*, where, in the late *Irish War*, most of the Troops embarked for that grand Expedition: from hence the Vessels go away to *Higblake*, where they ride safe in their Way, as the Ships from *London* lie in the *Downs*, till the Wind presents for their respective Voyages.

But to return to *Chester*: It is a fine old City and Colony of the *Romans*; and many Antiquities have been found in it: nay, it is evident from the Inscriptions of several Altars and Coins found in and about this City, with the Names and Titles of *Julius Agricola*, &c. that the *Legio XX.* called *Victrix*, was here quartered. The Wall, which surrounds the City, is Two Miles in Circumference, affording a delightful Walk round, and said to be built by the noble *Mercian* Lady *Edelfleda*, in the Year 908. *Chester* has Nine Churches, including the Cathedral, which is a Pile venerable for Antiquity, but in no extraordinary Condition. There are Shadows of many Pictures on the Wall, but defaced. At the West-end, in Niches, are some Images of the Earls Palatine of *Chester*. The adjoining Abbey is quite ruined. The Walls round the City are kept in very good Repair, at the Charge of the Corporation, and afford a pleasant, airy Walk. The

Exchange is a neat Building, supported by Columns 13 Feet high, of one Stone each. Over it is the City-hall, a well-contrived Court of Judicature. The Castle was formerly the Palace, where the Earls assembled their Parliaments, and enacted Laws independent of the Kings of *England*, determining all Causes themselves. It has always a Garrison kept in it. The Piazzas, or *Rows*, as they call them, do not, in my Opinion, add any thing to the Beauty of the City; but, on the contrary, serve to make it look both old and indifferent. These *Rows* are certain long Galleries, up one Pair of Stairs, which run along the Side of the Streets, before all the Houses, though joined to them; and, as is pretended, they are to keep the People dry in walking along. This they do indeed effectually; but then they take away all the View of the Houses from the Street; nor can a Stranger, in his Riding through *Chester*, see any Shops in the City: besides, they make the Shops themselves dark; and the Way in them is dark, dirty, and uneven. *Chester* sends Two Members to Parliament.

The best Ornament of the City is, that the Streets are very broad and fair, and run through the whole City in strait Lines, crossing in the Middle of it, as at *Chichester*. The Walls afford a very pleasant Walk, as I have said, round the City, and within the Battlements, from whence you may see the circumjacent Country, and particularly on the Side of the *Rhoodee*, which is a fine large low Green, on the Bank of the *Dee*, which in Winter is often under Water by the Inundations of the River. Beyond the *Rhoodee*, may be seen from the Walls of *Chester* the County of *Flint*, and the Mountains of *Wales*.

The Castle is a good firm Building, and strong, though not fortified with many Outworks. 'Tis said this Castle was built, or at least repaired, by *Hugh Lupus*, the famous Earl of *Chester*, Nephew to *William the Conqueror*, as was also the Church; the Body of whom was lately (in the Year 1723.) discovered, as is supposed,

supposed, in an old ruinous Building, called, The Chapter-house.

It was first wrapped in Leather, and then inclosed in a Stone Coffin. The Skull and all the Bones were very fresh, and in their proper Position; and, what is more remarkable, the String which tied the Ankles together was whole and intire, although it was then upwards of 650 Years since the Interment.

Chester is but a modern Bishoprick, being so made in the Year 1541. when King *Henry VIII.* divided it from *Lichfield*. They tell us, that King *Edgar*, who conquered all this Part of *Britain*, and was rowed up the *Dee*, in his Royal Barge, by Seven, or, as some say, Eight, Kings, himself steering the Helm, founded the great Church, which *Lupus* finished and endowed.

Here is a noble Stone-Bridge over the *Dee*, very high and strong-built; and 'tis needful it should be so; for the *Dee* is a most furious Stream at some Seasons, and brings a vast Weight of Water with it from the Mountains of *Wales*.

Chester has long given Title of Earl to the Prince of *Wales*.

Chester was formerly an Harbour for Shipping; but the Sea had long ago withdrawn itself; and the River *Dee* was so choaked up, that Vessels of Burden could not come within some Miles of it; so that an Act of Parliament passed in the Year 1732. for rendering it navigable. And, in pursuance thereof, the Undertakers raised a Sum of 47,830 *l.* which they have expended in cutting and perfecting a new Chanel for the River *Dee*, of near 10 Miles in Length, and in making proper Dams and Sluices, into which they have turned the said River; so that it is actually navigable at this time for Ships and Vessels of considerable Burdens to the Quay, or Key, of *Chester*, where they load and unload Goods and Merchandize. This Success encouraged the Undertakers to apply to Parliament (1740-1.) for further Powers to complete the same, and for uniting

the said Undertakers into a Company for that laudable Purpose.

This County, though so remote from *London*, is one of those which contributes much to its Support, as well as to that of several other Parts of *England*, by its excellent Cheese, which they make here in such Quantities, that, as I am told from very good Authority, the City of *London* alone takes off 14,000 Tons every Year; besides vast Quantities which they send to *Bristol* and *York*; and also to *Scotland* and *Ireland*; so that the Quantity of Cheese made here must be prodigiously great. Indeed the whole County is employed in it, and Part of its Neighbourhood too; for though it goes by the Name of *Cheshire Cheese*, yet great Quantities of it are made in such Parts of *Shropshire*, *Staffordshire*, and *Lancashire*, as border upon *Cheshire*.

This Soil is extraordinarily good, and the Grass has a peculiar Richness in it, which disposes the Kine to give a great Quantity of Milk, which is very sweet and good; and this Cheese Manufacture increases every Day, raises the Value of the Lands, and encourages the Farmers to keep vast Stocks of Cows; which of themselves, contribute to improve and enrich the Land.

While we were stationed, as I may say, at *Chester*, I made a Trip to several Places round it; and particularly to the fine old Seat of the Earl of *Warrington*, and the spacious Forest of *Delamere*, which gives Title of Baron to that noble Family. They say here was formerly an old City, now called the *Chamber on the Forest*, probably some Fort or Camp to secure the Road. From hence is so fine a Prospect of the *Welsh* Mountains, that I never before beheld such a noble Scene of Nature. This Forest is noted for great Plenty of Red and Fallow Deer, and is a great Relief, for Fish, Fowl, and Turf, to the neighbouring Towns, whereof there are a great many small ones about this Forest, and through the upper Part of it the *Weaver* takes its Course. The chief Town hereabout is *Frodesham*, formerly famous
for

for a Castle, and the Seat of the Family of the *Savages*, which however is but a mean Market-Town. Near this Place is also the famous Seat of *Rock-Savage*, built on the Ascent of an Hill belonging to the same Family, whereof the last was the late Earl *Rivers*.

On the South-side of the Park stands *Beefton* Castle, upon an Hill environed with Mountains, and yet overlooks almost the whole County. It is very strong, covers a great Extent of Ground, and is adorned with many Towers. It gives Name to an antient Family in this County.

From *Chester* we kept directly on East to *Middlewich*, a large Market-town, with a spacious Church, but chiefly noted for making Salt; where are Two excellent Brine-seeths.

We followed the *Weaver* directly North to *Northwich*, also famous for Brine-springs, and for making great Quantities of the finest Salt, by boiling the Water in large Iron Pans of small Depth. As fast as the Salt crystallizes, they rake it out, and dry it in wicker Baskets of a conic Form. The Duty it brings in is very considerable.

Within these 64 Years, on the South-side of the Town, they discovered a great many Mines of Rock-salt, which they continually dig up, and send in great Lumps to the maritime Ports, where it is dissolved, and made into eating Salt. We were let down by a Bucket 150 Feet deep to the Bottom of the Salt-quarry, a most pleasant subterraneous Prospect, looking like a Cathedral supported by Rows of Pillars, and Roof of Crystal, all of the same Rock, transparent and glittering from the numerous Candles of the Workmen, labouring with their Steel Pick-axes in digging it away. This Rock-work extends to several Acres.

At *Lawton-yeates* they bore 60 Yards deep for the Salt-spring; at *Hassal* 47; at *Wheelock* 18; about *Middlewich* less; at *Northwich* it rises to open Day, which seems to intimate, that the Salt-spring runs be-

tween Layers of the Earth in an horizontal Line. Upon Boring, it rises with great Impetuosity, so that the Workmen have scarce time to get out of the Wells. This is all along the Side of a Brook that comes from a remarkable Hill called *Mawcop*, upon the Edge of *Staffordshire*; so that the Ground rises above the true Level in the mentioned Proportion.

From *Northwich* we traveled North-east, and came to *Knutsford*, a good Town, and finely situated. A Brook runs through it, and divides it into Two. It has a Market and Town-house, and a pretty good parochial Church.

Altringham and *Stockport*, Two small Market-towns, lie higher up Northward, the first near, and the other upon, the Borders of *Lancashire*.

Stockport is a Town of good Entertainment, lying in a Valley by the River *Mersey*: the Bridge over this River was blown up, to prevent the Retreat of the Rebels in 1745. so that the King's Forces, in Pursuit of them, were obliged to ford it up to their Middles; and the Soldiers Wives did the same.

I reserve to another Place the Account of the Rise, Progress, and Extinction of that Rebellion.

Macclesfield is situate by the River *Bollen*, in the Forest of the same Name, a Town of great Antiquity, and very fair and spacious. 'Tis under the Government of a Mayor, and enjoys many particular Privileges by virtue of the Court and Liberties of the Forest. It has a good Church, and a College adjoining to it, in which are buried a great many of the Family of the *Savages*: and here is also a good Freeschool, and a thriving Manufacture of Mohair Buttons.

From hence we turned about, and came South-west to *Congleton*, near the Borders of *Staffordshire*. The Middle of this Town is watered by the little Brook *Howly*; the East-side by the *Daning Schow*; and the North by the *Dan*. Altho', in Consideration of its Populousness and Trade (Part of which is in Gloves
and

and Mohair Buttons), it is governed by a Mayor and Six Aldermen, yet it has only one Chapel in it, and that intirely of Wood, excepting the Choir, and a little Tower. It has a very plentiful Market; and is well watered, as I have observed, on all Sides.

After passing the *Bollen*, we see on every Side in the large Forest of *Macclesfield* the Pits where they dig Turf in Squares, like Bricks; and in these Pits nothing is more common than to see Fir-trees buried from 10 to 20 Feet deep, which the Men who work here, dig up for various Uses; but chiefly for Splinters, which are very resinous, and when lighted serve the Poor for Candles.

I proceeded to the Market-town of *Sandbach*, which is delightfully situated on a Branch of the *Weaver*. It has a fair Church, and in the Market-place stand Two Crosses of Stone, with the History of *Christ's* Passion engraven on them. The Ale here is deservedly famed.

From *Sandbach* we went on Southward, and came to the great *London* Road at *Namptwich*, which stands upon it. This Town is well-built, and the Streets look fair, having a great many Gentlemens Houses in them. The Church is a noble Edifice in the Form of a Cross, with the Steeple rising from the Middle; but the Maintenance of the Minister is mean and pitiful. The Inhabitants are rich, and carry on a good Trade in most Sorts of Commodities, but principally in making Salt and Cheese, the latter exceeding all that is made in the County, as the Soil this Way is esteemed the best, and, as 'tis said, was called by King *Edward I.* *The Vale Royal*.

Thus having made my Circuit round the County, I shall go from hence South to *Whitchurch* in *Shropshire*. But I must first note Two things of *Cheshire*: 1. That there is no Part of *England* where there are equal Numbers of Gentry, of such antient Extraction: Mr. *Camden* is very particular in their Names and Descents, to whom therefore I must refer. 2. That it is a County
Palatine,

Palatine, and has been so for many Ages; and its Government is distinct from any other, and very particular; it is administered by a *Chamberlain*, a *Judge Special*, who is called *Chief Justice of Chester*, a *Puisney Judge*, Three *Sergeants at Law*, a *Sheriff*, an *Escheator*, and all proper and usual subordinate Officers; and the Jurisdiction of all these Offices is kept up and preserved very strictly.

The first Town we came to in *Shropshire*, called *Whitchurch*, is a pleasant, large, and populous Town, and has a very good Church, in which is the famous Monument of the great *John Talbot*, first Earl of *Shrewsbury*, who was called in his Time the *English Achilles*, and who was so renowned in the Wars in *France*, that no Man in that Kingdom dared to encounter him single-handed. He had engraven on one Side of his Sword, in rude *Latin*, *Sum Talboti*; and on the Reverse, *Pro vincere inimicos meos*. His Epitaph is as follows:

ORATE PRO ANIMA PRÆNOBILIS
DOMINI, DOMINI IOHANNIS TALBOTT,
QVONDAM COMITIS SALOPIÆ, DOMINI
TALBOTT, DOMINI FVRNIVALL, DO-
MINI VERDON, DOMINI STRANGE DE
BLACKMERE, ET MARESCHALLI FRAN-
CIÆ, QVI OBIIT IN BELLO APVD BVR-
DEWS VII. IVLII MCCCCLIII.

This Town has a good Market, and a great many Gentry near it, whereof some are *Roman-catholics*. They tell us, that this Town, when King *Charles I.* removed his Standard from *Nottingham* to *Shrewsbury*, raised a whole Regiment for his Service.

From hence we turned South, and passing by *Wem*, the Title given by King *James II.* to his Lord Chancellor *Jefferies*, thence we came to *Elsmere*, which
gives

gives Title of Baron to the Duke of *Bridgwater*, and is famous for a great Lake or Mere, which gives the Town its Name, and which the People pretend has in some Places no Bottom. This is remarkable for good Fish.

Close by the Side of this *Mere* is an antient Seat of the *Kynastons*: the House appears to be very old, and stands low; but the Park is a very fine one, having the greatest Quantity of the largest Elm-trees perhaps to be seen in any Part of *England*; and, some few Years since, it was as well stocked with Oaks; but as I was informed by a neighbouring Gentleman, there had been Eight thousand Pounds worth of Timber sold a few Years ago.

And farther on, West, on the Confines of *Denbeigh-shire*, stands *Ofwestry*, a Bailiwick Market-town, formerly famous for the Sale of *Welsh* Cottons and Flannels, but now only for the last; and of these there are not many at present exported; so that there is scarce any Trade in the Town; nor is there one tolerable House to entertain Travelers, so that we were obliged to seek for better Quarters. The Town is inclosed with a Wall, and a Ditch, and fortified with a Castle; and has a good Church without the Gate, covered with Lead. From hence we came the same Night to *Shrewsbury*.

Shrewsbury is supposed to have been built out of the Ruins of the antient *Uriconium*. In the Reign of *William the Conqueror*, Roger Earl of *Montgomery* built a Castle here, on the North-side, and a stately Abbey, called *St. Giles's*, or *The Holy-Cross*, at the East-end (of great Note for being the Repository of *St. Winifrid's* Body), some Ruins of which are still to be seen. It is a beautiful, large, pleasant, populous, and rich Town; full of Gentry, and of Trade too; for here is a great Manufacture, as well of Flannel as of white Broad-cloth, which enriches all the Country round it.

The

The *Severn* in part furrounds this Town, just as the *Thames* does the *Isle of Dogs*; so that it makes the Form of an Horse-shoe. Over it are Two fine Stone Bridges, upon one of which is built a very noble Gate, and, over the Arch of the Gate, the Statue of the great *Llew-ellin*, the Idol of the *Welsh*, and their last Prince of *Wales*; this being the Place where the antient Princes of *Powis-land*, or *North-Wales*, kept their Residence.

This is really a Town of Mirth and Gallantry, something like *Bury* in *Suffolk*, or *Durham* in the North, but much bigger than either of them, or indeed than both together.

Over the Market-house is kept a kind of Hall for the Manufactures, which are sold here weekly in very great Quantities: they speak all *English* in the Town, but on a Market-day you would think you were in *Wales*.

Here is the largest Market, the greatest Plenty of good Provisions, and the cheapest, that is to be met with in all the Western Part of *England*. The *Severn* supplies them here with excellent Salmon; but 'tis also brought in great Plenty from the *Dee*, which is not far off, and abounds with a very good Kind, and is generally larger than in the *Severn*. As an Example of the Cheapness of Provisions, we paid here, in a public Inn, but a Groat a Night for Hay, and Six-pence a Peck for Oats, for our Horses, which is cheaper than we found it in the cheapest Part of the North of *England*; all our other Provisions were in proportion; and there is no doubt but the Cheapness of Provisions, joined to the Pleasantness and Healthiness of the Place, draws a great many Families hither, who love to live within the Compass of their Estates.

The Market-days are *Wednesday* and *Saturday*; besides a great Market on *Thursdays*, solely for the Traffick of *Welsh* Cloth, carried on by the Company of Drapers of this Town; and Six annual Fairs, held

June

June 22. Aug. 1. Sept. 21. Dec. 1. Wednesday after Easter Week, and Wednesday before Whitsuntide.

Mr. *Camden* calls it a City: and 'tis indeed equal to several good Cities in *England*, and superior to some. Near this Place was fought the bloody Battle between *Henry Hotspur* and *Henry IV. King of England*, in which the former was killed, and all his Army overthrown; and the Place called *Battle-field* to this Day.

Here are Five Churches, Two of them with lofty Spires. *St. Chad's* and *St. Mary's* are said to have been antiently collegiate. There are abundance of antique Monuments in them all, which I have not room to mention.

All the Parishes, except *St. Mary's*, which is a Royal Peculiar, are in the Diocese of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*. The Town was incorporated by King *Henry I.* and the Government of it is placed in a Mayor, Recorder, Steward, 24 Aldermen, and 48 Common-councilmen; and it returns Two Members to Parliament.

This Town will for ever be famous for the Reception it gave to King *Charles I.* who, after setting up his Standard at *Nottingham*, and finding no Encouragement there, removed to *Shrewsbury*, being invited by the Gentry of the Town and County round; where he was received with such a general Affection, and hearty Zeal, that his Majesty recovered himself from the Discouragement of his first Step at *Nottingham*, and raised and completed a strong Army in less Time than could be imagined; insomuch that, to the Surprise of the Parliament, and indeed of all the World, he was in the Field before them, and advanced upon them so fast, that he met them Two-thirds onward of his Way to *London*, and gave them Battle at *Edgehill* near *Banbury*.

But the Fate of the War turning afterwards against the King, the Weight of it fell heavy upon this Town, and almost ruined it.

Indeed

Indeed they are now fully recovered, and it is one of the most flourishing Towns in *England*. The Walls and Gates are yet standing, but useless; and the old Castle is gone to Ruin, as is the Case of almost all the old Castles in *England*.

It should not be forgotten, that, notwithstanding the Healthiness of the Place, here broke out first that unaccountable Plague, called, *The Sweating Sickness*, Anno 1551. which spread itself through the whole Kingdom, and afterwards into several foreign Nations.

Here is a good Freeschool, the most considerable in this Part of *England*; founded by King *Edward VI.* and endowed by Queen *Elizabeth*, with a very sufficient Maintenance for a Chief or Head-master, and Three Under-masters or Ushers. The Buildings, which are of Stone, are very spacious, particularly the Library, which has a great many Books in it. The School-masters have also very handsome Houses to dwell in, so that the Whole has the Face of a College.

Here I was shewn a very visible and remarkable Appearance of the great antient Road or Way called *Watling-street*, which comes from *London* to this Town, and goes on from hence to the utmost Coast of *Wales*. Remains of a Stone Bridge are to be seen in the Bottom of the River, when the Water is low. This Road is raised a good Height above the Soil, and so strait, that upon an Eminence you may see it 10 or 15 Miles before you, and as much behind, over many Hill-tops answering one the other as a Vista of Trees.

We lodged at an Inn called *Ivesey-bank*, on the Borders between *Staffordshire* and *Shropshire*. About a Mile off in a large Wood stands *Boscobel-house*, or *White-Ladies*, as some call it, where the *Pendrils* lived, who preserved King *Charles II.* after *Worcester* Battle, and famous for the Royal Oak. The Grand-daughter of that *William Pendril* still lived in the House, when I was there. The Floor of the Garret, which is a Popish Chapel (formerly a Nunnery in Possession of the Family

Family of *Cooksey*), being matted, prevents any Suspicion of a little Cavity with a Trap-door over the Stair-case, where the King was hid. His Bed was artfully placed behind some Wainscot, that shut up very close. A Descendent of the *Cookseys* still keeps the Gloves and Garters, which his Majesty left behind him.

The said Chapel is still standing, and has some painted Saints upon the Wall at one End.

A Bow-shot from the House, just by an Horse-track passing through the Wood, stood the Royal Oak, into which the King and Colonel *Carlos* climbed, by means of the Hen-roost Ladder, when they thought it no longer safe to stay in the House, the Family reaching them Victuals with the Nut-hook. It happened, as the People related it to us, that whilst the King and Colonel were in the Tree, a Party of the Enemy's Horse, sent to search the House, came whistling and talking along this Road; and, when they were just under the Tree, an Owl flew out of a neighbouring Tree, and hovered along the Ground, as if her Wings were broken, which the Soldiers merrily pursued.

The Tree is now inclosed within a Brick Wall, the Inside whereof is covered with Laurel, of which we may say, as *Ovid* did of that of the *Augustan* Palace,—*Meliampque tuebere quercum*. For the Oak is in the Middle, almost cut away by Travelers, whose Curiosity leads them to see it. Close by the Side grows a young thriving Plant from one of its Acorns.

After the Restoration, the King, reviewing the Place, no doubt, with very different Emotions from what he had when he was in it, gathered some of the Acorns, and set them in *St. James's* Park or Garden, and used to water them himself. If we may judge of the Value the King put upon his Preservation, and Royal Person, it was worth 200 *l. per Annum*; and one should think a King, if worth any thing, worth that; for so much he gave to *Pendril*, and it now remains in the Family.

Family. Over the Door of the Inclosure is this Inscription cut in Marble :

*Felicissimam arborem, quam in asylum potentissimæ
Regis Caroli II. Deus O. M. per quem Reges reg-
nant, hic crescere voluit, tam in perpetuam re-
tantæ memoriam, quam specimen firmæ in Regni
fidei, muro cinctam posteris commendant Basilus &
Jana Fitzherbert.*

Quercus amica Jovi.

That is,

Basil and Jane Fitzherbert recommended to Posterity this most fortunate Tree, which the All-gracious and All-mighty God, by whom Kings reign, ordained here to grow, to be the Asylum of the most Potent Prince King *Charles II.* and have begirt it with a Wall, as well in perpetual Remembrance of so great an Event, as a Testimony of their firm Allegiance to Kings.

—The Oak belov'd by *Jove*.

Ten Miles South-east of *Shrewsbury* stands *Great Wenlock*, a good Market-town, mentioned p. 328.

The noted *Wreken-hill* stands higher up, North of it between the *Watling-street* and the *Severn*, within a Mile of *Wroxeter*, the famous Roman Station. It ascends gradually from a pleasant level Ground, striking out a pretty great Length, and is well adorned with Trees. 'Tis the highest Ground in all the County, and gives a fine Prospect all around it.

North of this, about Eight Miles Distance, is a fine Seat belonging to Sir *Rowland Hill*, Bart. The House which is built in a very good Taste, standing low, not seen from the Road; but the Hill, which stands above the House, and fronts the *Wreken*, is made very beautiful, by cutting away the Rocks, and forming them into Bastions, and regular Gothic Buildings, with the same

me Stone; and here is a fine Vineyard planted in Terraces, which overlooks the Country beyond *Shrewsbury*, in which the Grapes generally ripen as soon as in most Parts of *England*; which is owing to its Situation, it being defended on every Side, and opens only to the South.

This Vineyard is seen from *Shrewsbury*, which is upward of 10 Miles.

Near this are the Remains of an antient Fortification called *Red-castle*, the Walls of which are yet standing: it is situated on an high Hill, which commands the Country on every Side; and is surrounded by a deep Ditch, which, though in some Places almost filled up, may be plainly traced. The Walls of the Castle are built with a red sort of Brick, and are very thick. In several Places are small Cells, just large enough to contain a single Person; and in the Middle is a deep Well. I could not meet with any Person who could give me any Account of this Castle.

Following the *Watling-street* North, we came to a small Market-town called *Wellington*, of very little Note; and still keeping *the Street*, we arrived at *Newport* on the Borders of *Staffordshire*, a little Market-town, where is one of the noblest Foundations for a School in the whole Kingdom, endowed by one *Adams*, an Haberdasher of *London*, to the Value of 7000 *l.* The School is 70 Feet long, 22 wide, and the same in height, a Library, an House for both the Master and Usher, 60 *l.* a Year to the first, and 30 *l.* to the other; and a Garden to each House of an Acre, and Two Acres for the Boys to play in. Near it he has likewise built an Alms-house, and gave 550 *l.* towards building the Town-house. Over the School-door, is this Distich:

*Scriptisti hæredem patriam, tibi quæ dedit ortum:
Scriberis ergo tuæ iure pater patriæ.*

That

That is,

Thy Country is thy Heir: and therefore we
Justly esteem thy Country's Parent Thee.

Between this Town and *Drayton*, a small Market town, higher up Northward, and likewise on the Borders of *Staffordshire*, is *Blorebeath*, famous for a Battle fought between the House of *York* and that of *Lancaster*, wherein *Nevil* Earl of *Salisbury* for the former with 5000 Men only, beat Lord *Audley* with 10,000 Men, after a most bloody Engagement.

Entering *Staffordshire*, we quitted the said *Streetway*, a little to the Left, to see *Stafford*, the County-town, and the most considerable, except *Lichfield*, in the County. In the Way, we passed through a small but antient Town, called *Penkrige*, vulgarly *Pankrage*, probably the *Pennocrucium* of the *Romans*, where happened to be a Fair. We were surprised to see the prodigious Number of the finest and most beautiful Horses that can any-where be seen, brought hither from *Yorkshire*, the Bishoprick of *Durham*, and all the Horse-breeding Counties in *England*: we were told there were not less than an hundred Jockeys or Horse-kopers, as they call them there, from *London*, to buy Horses for Sale. Also an incredible Number of Gentlemen attended with their Grooms, to buy Hunters, and good Road-horses. In a word, I believe I may mark it for the greatest Horse-fair in the World, for Horses of Value, and especially those we call Saddle-horses; though there were great Numbers of fine large Stone-horses for Coach and Draught too.

From hence we came in Two Hours easy Riding to *Stafford*, on the River *Sow*. 'Tis an antient Town, and gives Name to the County. It is neat and well-built, and pleasantly seated in low Grounds; and is lately much increased, and grown rich by the Clothing-trade.

It is governed by a Mayor, and other inferior Officers, consists of Two Parishes, and returns Two Members to Parliament. 'Tis said this Town retains the antient Custom of *Borough English*; which is, that the youngest Sons inherit the Lands of their Fathers within the Town. It is adorned with Two Churches; one of which is very large and spacious; and a Freeschool: the Streets are clean, and well-paved; the Buildings of Stone and Slate; and some of the Structures are very modish and beautiful. Its Market-place is large and uniform; in which stands the Shire-hall, where the Assizes for the County are held. King *John* made it a Corporation, and *Edward VI.* confirmed and enlarged the Charter. About a Mile and half out of the Town, upon an Hill, we saw the Ruins of an antient Castle, belonging heretofore to the Barons of *Stafford*; but it was demolished in the Civil Wars. This Hill affords a most pleasant Prospect of the Town, and adjacent Country.

We tarried here a few Days, in order to visit the Towns lying on each Side of it with more Attention and Convenience.

Eccleshall lies North-west of *Stafford*, and is a pretty Market-town, noted for Pedlery-wares: and an handsome little Market-town, with good Inns in it, called *Stone*, lies upon the *Trent*; and all the Country hereabouts yields delightful Views of this noble River. At *Shirby-wich* is a large Salt-well, and a fine Country.

Newcastle under Line stands still farther North, upon a Branch of the *Trent*. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, Two Justices, Two Bailiffs, and Common-council, holds Pleas under 40 s. and returns Two Members to Parliament. The Streets are large, broad, and paved. The Clothing-trade flourishes here, and the Town is surrounded with Coal-pits. It has an handsome Market-place. The New Castle, whence the Town was denominated, is now leveled. The adjacent Parts yield good Quantities of Pit-coal: and about Three Miles from the Town is a Manufacture of Earthen-ware, which

which imitates brown China, and makes curious black Tea-pots, &c. resembling Japan, being neatly figured and gilt. The Coals here are cut out in Slices, and shine with all the various Colours of a Peacock's Tail, and therefore are called *Peacock-coals*.

The principal Manufacture in this Town at present is Hat-making; there being an incorporated Company here by the Name of Felt-makers.

Dr. Plot, as an Instance of the Growth of Stones mentions, that near this Place was found a Stone, with a Man's Skull, Teeth and all, inclosed in it. And here is an excellent Device for the Taming of Shrews: they put a Bridle into the Scold's Mouth, which deprives her of the Power of Speech, by which she is led about the Town, and exposed to public Shame, till she promises Amendment.

Near this Town is the greatest Quantity of Stones ware made of any Part of *England*. I was assured by a Nobleman who lived in that Neighbourhood, that they usually exported 20,000 *l.* worth of that Manufacture every Year.

About Three Miles South-east of *Newcastle* is the little Town of *Trentham*, so called from the River *Trent*, which rises there.

At this Place is the noble Seat of Earl *Gower*, which is esteemed the finest Place in this County: the House is modern, and built on the Plan of *Buckingham-house* in *St. James's Park*. It is situated close to the Church, which renders the Entrance to the House very inconvenient, the Church and Churchyard being in Front.

The Park is very beautiful, and has Two large Pieces of Water in it; and the Hills, which rise immediately from the Water, are finely covered with Wood; which has a noble Effect as you pass along the Road to *Newcastle*. The Park is walled round, and from the high Ground in it, you have an extensive View of the Country every Way.

Betley, a little Market-town, lies North-West of *Newcastle*, upon the Borders of *Cheshire*.

Breewood is a pretty Market-town, lying South-west of *Stafford*. And due South stands

Wolverhampton, a very antient Town, situate on an Hill, which is well-built, paved, and inhabited. Here the Trade of Lock-making is carried on to great Perfection; as is also every other Manufacture in Brass and Iron; and the Goods are exported all over *Europe*: but the Town does not increase in its Buildings like that of *Birmingham*, the Land, for the chief Part, being the Property of the Church, and consequently the Tenure not sufficient to encourage People to lay out their Money upon it. The Church, which is Collegiate, was founded by a Widow Lady, named *Wulfsnena*, in the Year 996. and King *Edward VI.* granted it, together with Seven Prebends thereunto belonging, to *John Dudley*, Duke of *Northumberland*, in the Year 1553. In it are several old Monuments, and a Brass Statue of *Sir Richard Leveson*, who engaged the *Spaniards*, under *Sir Francis Drake*. The Pulpit is very old, and of Stone; and in the Church-yard is a very old Stone Cross. From the Hill, on which the Town is situated, run Four weak Springs of different Qualities, which is the only Water they have to supply this large and populous Town.

The Market for Iron-work is held weekly. Some of it is made in the Town; but the chief Part is brought to the Market by the Farmers for several Miles round it: for in this Country every Farm has one Forge, or more; so that the Farmers carry on Two very different Businesses; working at their Forges as Smiths, when they are not employed in the Fields as Farmers: and all they work they bring to Market, where the great Tradesmen buy it up, and send it to *London*.

In the Hamlet of *Wednesfield*, near Two Miles distant from *Wolverhampton*, a new Chapel is to be erected, by Act of Parliament passed in the Session of 1746.

for the better Convenience of the Inhabitants attending Divine Service, the Road between these Two Places being very deep and dirty in the Winter-season; and the Chaplain or Curate is to be nominated by Mrs. *Martha Gough*, Widow, a principal Contributor to this pious Work, or her Heirs.

Walsal, East of *Wolverhampton*, is a good, pleasant Corporate-town, governed by a Mayor, and situate on the Top of an Hill. This Place is famous for Iron-mines and Iron-works, such as Spurs, Bridle-bits, Stirrups, Buckles, &c. in which there is a considerable Trade carried on.

Wrottesley deserves to be mentioned, as it is eminent for the Remains of some *British* or other Antiquity (to speak of it in the Words of the Right Reverend Continuator of *Camden*), whether Fortification or City.

My Author, says he, inclines to the latter, because of the several Partitions, like Streets, running divers Ways, which are within the Limits of it; as also the large Hinges which have been found here, and some of the Stones squared. The Whole contains in Circuit about Three or Four Miles; and Stones of a vast Bigness have been found thereabouts. It is remarkable, that one of these made One hundred Loads; another, after Ten Loads hewn off, required 36 Yoke of Oxen to draw it, and made a great Cistern in a Malt-house here at *Wrottesley*; which, though left very thick both at Bottom and Sides, wets 37 Strikes of Barley at a time.

Upon the Extremity of the County, South, just on the Borders of *Worcestershire*, is situate upon an high Mountain, the famous antient Castle of *Dudley*, Building of great Extent, with Trenches about it cut out of a Rock, and hath an high Tower upon it, on the South-side. It was built by *Dodo* a Saxon, in 700. Great Part of it is in Ruins, and the rest converted into a noble Seat, where the Lord *Ward* resides. The Castle over-tops all the Trees that surround it, and has a most extensive Prospect over Five Shires, and into

Part of *Wales*. In the Hall of this Castle is a Table all of one intire Plank, which, before it was fitted up there, was 25 Yards long, and one Yard in Breadth; but, being too long for the Hall, Seven Yards and Nine Inches of it were cut off, and made a Table for the Hall of a neighbouring Gentleman. What a prodigious Oak must this have been, that had a Length of 25 Yards, and a Diameter of One Yard from one End to the other!

The Town of *Dudley* lies near it, but in *Worcestershire*; and is only remarkable for being in a different County from the Castle.

The People in this County have been more particularly famous than any other for good Footmanship; and there have been, and still are, among them some of the fleetest Runners in *England*; which must be owing to their exercising themselves in it from their Childhood; for running Foot-races seems to be the general Sport or Diversion of the Country.

Near *Stafford* we saw *Ingestre*, where the late *Walter Chetwynd*, Esq; built, or rather rebuilt, a very fine Church at his own Charge, and where the late Lord Viscount *Chetwynd* has, with a Profusion of Expence, laid out the finest Park and Gardens that are in this Part of *England*.

About a Mile from this Place is *Shuckborow-Manor*, the Seat of *Thomas Anson*, Esq; elder Brother to Lord *Anson*. The House stands near the *Trent*, and the Gardens, which are laid out in a fine Taste, are situated on the Banks of the River. There are some Ruins built with large Stones, which the present Possessor found on the Spot; and which have a very good Effect.

At the Bottom of the Garden, in the public Road, is a large standing Water, which in Winter, and after great Rains, is impassable: over it is a Stone Bridge of 39 Arches, for Horse and Foot Passengers; but it is too narrow for Wheel-carriages.

I am now at the utmost Extent of my proposed Limits for this Circuit; for *Ingestre* Parks reach to the very Banks of the *Trent*. So I turned to the Right, and, intending for *Lichfield*, in the Way we saw *Beaufort*, a famous old Seat, said to be built by *Hugh Lupus*, Earl of *Chester*. The Name indeed intimates it to be of *Norman* or *French* Original; at present it is in the noble Family of *Paget*, Earl of *Uxbridge*, who is styled Baron of *Beaufort*. The Park is very fine, and its Situation exceeding pleasant; but the House is antient. In the Park is a famous Piece of Antiquity; viz. a large Camp or Fortification, surrounded with a double Trench, very large and deep.

On the Left of the Road is *Ouseley*, the Seat of Sir *William Ouseley*. The House is antient, and situated low among the Marshes, with the River running in Front. The Park is on a rising Ground on the Right hand of the Road; so is separated from the House and Gardens. In the Front of the House, next *Ouseley* Bridge, stands an old Cedar-tree, whose Branches extend so far, and so low, as to cover intirely that Front of the House.

From hence 'tis about 12 Miles to the City of *Lichfield*, the principal, next to *Chester*, of all the North-west Part of *England*; nor indeed is there any other, but this and *Coventry*, in the whole Road from *London* to *Carlisle*, which is on the Edge of *Scotland*.

At *Rugely*, which is an handsome well-built Town, finely situated near the *Trent*, we came into the great *Lancashire* and *Cheshire* Road, or the North-west Road from *London*, which, passing through this City from *Warrington*-bridge in *Cheshire*, falls into the *Watling*-street, mentioned before, about Three Miles South-east from the Town, and crosses another antient Causeway or Road, called *Icknild-street*, about a Mile out of the City; so that *Lichfield* lies, as it were, at the joining of all those great Roads.

But, instead of going directly to *Lichfield*, we struck out of the Road, and went North-east to *Bromley*, pretty Market-town; and from thence East to *Tutbury*.

on the Skirts of *Derbyshire*: it has a small Market-town with a Castle in it.

Some Miles Southward stands *Burton upon Trent*, where the Clothing-trade is carried on with great Advantage. It is famous for its noble Bridge over the *Trent*, consisting of 36 Arches, and of the Length of 503 Yards, built probably by *William de la Waid*, in K. *Henry III.*'s Time (whose Arms are still to be seen in the Church), of Free-stone cut and squared.

Here are still the Remains of an Abbey of the *Benedictines*, whose Abbat was mitred, and sat in Parliament. In it was buried *Modwena*, a Virgin of eminent Sanctity, who gave Name to a Well in the Parish, whose Water is said to cure several Diseases. *Thursday* is the Market-day; and a Fair is annually held on *Ascension-day*.

From hence we returned South-west to *Lichfield*, which is a fine, neat, well-built, and pretty large City. It rose from the Ruins of the *Roman Eboracum*, a Mile off, now called *Chesterfield-wall*, from some Reliques of its Fortifications. There is a kind of flow, sluggish, Lough, or Water, which runs, or rather glides, heavily through it, and so on for Four or Five Miles farther into the *Trent*; but takes a swifter Motion as soon as it is out of the Town. This Water parts the City into Two: one Part is called the Town, and the other the Close; in the first is the Market-place, a fine School, and a very handsome Hospital dedicated to *St. John*, well endowed. This Part is much the largest, and most populous: but the other is the fairest, has the best Buildings in it, and, among the rest, the Cathedral Church, one of the finest and most beautiful in *England*.

There are Two fine Causeways, which join the City and the Close, with Sluices to let the Water pass; but those were cut through in the intestine Wars in *England*; and the Close, which is walled about, and was then fortified for the King, was very strong, and stood out several Attacks against *Cromwell's* Men; but was

at last taken by Storm, not without great Loss of Blood both Sides, being gallantly defended.

There are in the Close, besides the Houses of the Clergy Residentiaries, a great many very well-built and well-inhabited Houses; which made *Lichfield* a Place of good Company; above all the Towns in this or the neighbouring Counties of *Warwickshire* or *Derbyshire*.

The See is very antient, and was once archiepiscopal, made so by King *Offa*; and *Eadulph* the Archbishop was Metropolitan of all the Kingdom of the *Mercians* and *East-Angles*; but it did not hold it; then it suffered another Diminution, by having the See of *Chester* taken away, which was once Part of this.

They told us here a long Story of *St. Chad*, formerly Bishop of this Church, and how he lived an Eremitical Life here, by the Spring near *Stow Church*, in a little Hovel or Cell. But the Bishops, since that Time, fare better, and make shift with a very fine Palace in the *Close*, and the Residentiaries live in proportion to them.

They have another Story at *Lichfield*; namely, that a thousand poor People, being instructed in the Christian Faith by the Care of *Offa* King of the *Mercians*, were all martyred here in one Field by the Pagans: and that in the Field where they were so murdered, King *Oswoy* of *Northumberland* caused a great Church to be built; and from thence the City bears for its Device, an open Field, with mangled Carcases lying dispersed about it, as if murdered, and left unburied.

The Church, which was rebuilt by Bishop *Roger de Clinton* in 1148. for the Elegancy and Regularity of the Building, may be esteemed one of the most complete in *England*. The West-end is richly decorated with the Statues of all the Kings who reigned in *Jerusalem*, from *David* to the Captivity. But it is too flat, and wants Projection, or, as Architects call it, *Relief*, to give it Boldness. The Two Towers are much too low for their Breadth, and look very heavy for want of

Windows

Windows, especially where the Bells hang. The circular Staircases projecting octagonally at one Angle only of each, without any of the other Three Angles answering, is a great Irregularity. But the Spires above them are carried up in an exceeding beautiful Taste, much beyond any other *Gothic* Spires that I have seen. The middle Tower and Spire of this Church are much higher than those at the West-end, and are equally beautiful.

The Spire designed for the middle of *Westminster* Abbey is an Imitation of the middle Spire of this Church.

The great Window over the middle Door is very large, and its Pediment finely adorned, a large Cross finishing the Top of it.

The Imagery and carved Work on the Front, as above, suffered much in the Rebellion in 1641. and they told us, the Cross over the West Window was frequently shot at by the rude Soldiers; but that they could not shoot it down.

The Saints of those Days also intirely ruined all the Ornaments of the Inside, with the Brass Inscriptions, Tombs, &c. It is built in the midst of a Bog for Security, and held out some fierce Attacks for King *Charles I.* and what the Outside suffered, has been very well repaired since the Restoration, as well by the famous Bishop *Hacket*, as by the Bounty of several noble and generous Benefactors.

The *Monasticon* makes mention of a Shrine being given here for St. *Chad*, or St. *Cedda*, which cost 200,000 *l.* but I conceive that to smell as much of the Legend, as the Miracles of St. *Chad* himself; since such a Gift at that time must be equal to Two Millions of our Money.

The City is a County of itself, with a Jurisdiction extending 10 or 12 Miles round; which Circuit the Sheriff rides every Year on *Sept. 8.* It is governed by Two Bailiffs, a Sheriff, 24 Burgesses, a Recorder, &c. and sends Two Members to Parliament.

Antient Camps are found in the Neighbourhood of *Lichfield*.

From *Lichfield* we came to *Tamworth*, a fine pleasant trading Town, eminent for good Ale, and good Company, of the middling Sort; and also for a fine Charity of the famous Bookseller, Mr. *Guy*, who built and endowed the noble Hospital in *Southwark*, called by his Name. The Town stands on the River *Tame*, which runs through it, and divides it into Two Parts, one Part whereof is in this County, and the other in *Warwickshire*. It is a Bailiwick Town, and a Place of good Account, though it has been much more considerable. Here was antiently a Palace of the *Mercian* Kings, and there is still remaining a square Trench, called *The King's Dyke*. This Town was given by the *Conqueror* to the *Marmyons*, who built the Castle here, and were hereditary Champions of *England*, from whom that Office descended to the *Dymokes* of *Lincolnshire*. This Town returns Two Members to Parliament.

The following Account of a Witch-Elm, in Sir *Water Baggot's* Park in *Staffordshire*, deserves Notice.

Two Men were Five Days in felling it.

It measured 40 Yards in Length, when felled.

The Stool was 15 Yards Two Feet over.

14 Load were broken in the Fall.

48 Load in the Top.

There were made out of it 80 Pair of Naves; and 8660 Feet of Boards and Planks.

It cost 10 *l.* 17 *s.* sawing.

The whole Substance was conceived to be 97 Tons; and was felled in 1674.

From *Tamworth* we came to *Sutton-Colefield*, a little Town situated in an excellent Air, and among pleasant Woods, though but in a barren Soil; and then we came into the great Road again at *Colehill* in *Warwickshire*, a small, but handsome Market-town, noted, as a thorough-

thoroughfare Town, for good Inns. It is situated by the River *Cole*, and on so high an Hill, that the Spire of the Church is seen at a great Distance every Way.

In the Valley below this Town is the Park and Seat of the Family of the *Digby's*. The House is antient, and the Situation low, which renders it bad in Winter; but in Summer it is very pleasant, having the fine River serpentizing through the Park, and the Verdure continuing all the Summer, when most other Grounds around it are burnt up; and adorned with very agreeable Woods.

In our Way from hence to *Coventry*, we passed by a Seat of the late Earl of *Ailesbury*, about a Mile from *Meridan*. The House stands on the South-side of the Road, and the Park on the North-side. A large Arch is turned over the Road, wide enough for a Wheel-carriage to pass over, in order to have a Communication between the House and Park without going thro' the Road. The House is modern, and appears from the Road to be built in a good Taste; but its low Situation must deprive it of any extraordinary Prospect.

We next came to *Coventry*, the Sister City to *Lichfield*, and joined in the Title of See, which was for some little time seated here, but afterwards returned to *Lichfield*.

Coventry is a City of large Extent, and populous, situated near the Middle of *England*, on the little River *Sherburn*; whose Water is peculiar for its blue Dye. It drives a very great Trade: the Manufacture of Tam-mies is their chief Employ, and next to that, weaving of Ribands of the meanest kind, chiefly black. The Buildings are very old, and in some Places very much decayed; the Timber-built Houses project forwards into the Street towards one another, insomuch that in the narrow Streets they almost touch at the Top; a Method of Building formerly much practised in *London*. It was walled and incorporated by King *Edward II.* and its

Charter was confirmed by King *Henry VI.* and augmented with several Privileges by King *James I.*

The Tale of the Lady *Godina*, who rode naked thro' the High-street of this City to purchase its Exemption from oppressive Taxes, is held for so certain a Truth, that they will not have it questioned upon any Account whatsoever; and, in Memory of it, the Inhabitants make a Procession yearly, the *Friday* after *Trinity-Sunday*, which is a Fair, with a naked Figure of a Woman riding on Horseback thro' the City; and the Picture of the poor Fellow who peeped out of the Window to see her, is still kept up, looking out of a Garret in the High-street of the City. It has, besides, Three other Fairs, held *Oct. 3. Apr. 1. and Aug. 16.* Two Parliaments have been held in this City, both remarkably denominated; one in the 6th of King *Henry IV.* called *Parliamentum Indoctorum*; the other in the 38th of King *Henry VI.* called *Parliamentum Diabolicum*, because of the Attainder passed in it against the House of *York*, and its Partisans.

After the Restoration of King *Charles II.* Anno 1662. the Walls and Towers of the City were demolished, by that Prince's Command, and only the Gates of it left standing; by which the Beauty and Strength of the rest may be guessed at. The Wall round it was Three Miles in Compass; the Gates were in Number 12; and the Towers were 26.

This City sends Two Members to Parliament. It is a County incorporate of itself, and includes Nineteen Villages and Hamlets within its Limits. It holds Pleas, and is governed by a Mayor, 10 Aldermen, and Sub-officers; but it had only Two Parish-Churches, that of the *Holy Trinity*, and the Church of *St. Michael*, which were unable to hold half the Inhabitants, till the Year 1734. when an Act passed for making the Church of *Babblack* in *Coventry* a Parish-Church, and for appointing a District or Parish thereto, and for enabling the Master and Usher of the free Grammar-school within

within the said City, to be the Rector and Lecturer of the said Parish-Church, for all time to come. This is called in the Act the Parish-Church of *St. John the Baptist* in the City of *Coventry*. Besides these Three Churches and Parishes, it has Four Steeples. The Roads are kept well paved to it for a Mile round. Here is a good Freeschool, founded by *John Hales*, Esq; by the Name of the School of King *Henry VIII.* the Master of which is to be, for the future, the Minister of the new Parish-Church, as I have mentioned. It has a good Library; and there is also an Hospital for the Poor. In the Church of *St. Michael*, which is a fine Fabric of *Gothic* Architecture, is a most curious Piece of Painting, lately erected for an Altar-piece; by some thought to resemble more those that are seen in Popish Churches abroad, than the true Protestant Simplicity. But here is no Cathedral, as some have falsely said; neither is the Great Church, so called, either Collegiate or Conventual; but only a Monastery or Priory.

Yet this City contended a great while for this Honour, but could not carry it. In King *Henry VIII.*'s Time, the Priory being dissolved, the Church, which they would have called a Cathedral, was reduced to a private Parish-Church, and continues so to this Day: 'tis also an Archdeaconry, and the Bishop is stiled Bishop of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*.

The Spire of the great Church is, however, very beautiful, and 100 Yards high. The Two Churches above-named are in the same Yard, as it were rivaling each other.

The Cross is a fine *Gothic* Work, the stateliest in the Kingdom, 66 Feet high; and in Niches are the Statues of several of the *English* Kings, in curious *Gothic* Sculpture. It was built in *Henry VIII.*'s Reign, by Sir *William Holles*, Lord Mayor of *London*, and was repaired and beautified in the Year 1667. But it now wants another Repair; for it is in a very bad Condi-

tion ; most of the Figures are broken and defaced, and no Care taken to prevent their total Destruction.

At the South-end of the Town stands a tall Spire by itself, being what is left of the *Grey-Friers* Conventual Church. The Town-house is worth seeing ; the Windows of it are painted Glass, representing some of the old Kings, Earls, &c. who have been Benefactors to the Town.

And a Copy of *Latin* Verses is there to be read, in Praise of their Royal Benefactors, in which are named the *Edwards*, the *Henries*, the *Black Prince*, Queen *Elizabeth*, the Duke of *Northumberland*, and the great Earl of *Leicester*.

Wednesday and *Friday* are the Market-days.

Birmingham is a very populous Town, and full of Iron Manufactories, especially of the smaller Sorts ; in which the Inhabitants so greatly excel, that their Works are carried to all Parts of the World in great Quantities. It was a Lordship before the *Norman* Conquest : which Denomination it still retains, being governed by Two Constables ; but is of late Years greatly improved and enlarged by many new Buildings, both public and private ; particularly a Church built by virtue of an Act of Parliament, passed in the 7th Year of Queen *Anne*, which is dedicated to St. *Philip* ; a Charity-school, wherein are maintained and taught upwards of 50 Boys and Girls ; and a free Grammar-school, founded, and handsomely endowed, by King *Edward VI.* now rebuilt in a stately and commodious Form. This Town is on the Borders of the County, situated on the Side of an Hill ; and has a most plentiful Market every *Thursday*, and Two annual Fairs, one on *Ascension-day*, and the other at *Michaelmas*.

We could by no means pass the Town of *Warwick*, the Distance too being but about Six Miles from *Coventry*, and a very pleasant Way on the Banks of the River *Avon* : 'tis famous for being the Residence of the great *Guy* Earl of *Warwick*, of whom Tradition has delivered

delivered down to us so many hyperbolical Accounts, that it is hardly possible to distinguish his real Actions from what are fabulous. He flourished in the Reign of *Athelstane*, and decided the Fate of the Kingdom by Compact, in single Combat with *Colbrand* the *Dane*, a Man of gigantic Stature, whom he slew, and afterwards led an Hermit's Life, till his Death. They shew us here his Castle, his Helmet, his Sword, and tell abundance of things of him, which have some Appearance of History, though not much Authority to support them. So I leave that Part to the curious Searchers into Antiquity, who may consult Mr. *Camden*, *Rous*, *Dugdale*, and other Antiquaries, on that Subject, who tell us the Castle was built before our Saviour's Time, and has been a Place of great Consideration ever since.

As to *Warwick*, it is really a fine Town, pleasantly situated on the Bank of the *Avon*, over which is a large and stately Bridge, the *Avon* being now grown a pretty large River. *Warwick* has suffered much from all Quarters. It was once destroyed by the *Picts* and *Scots*; after which, the famous *Caractacus* (who at the Head of the *Silures* opposed the *Romans* so long) rebuilt it, erecting there also a Palace for himself. Then the *Romans* under *Ostorius*, and after them the *Saxons*, greatly damaged it; and lastly, the ravaging *Danes* ruined it.

Though it was a Corporation by Prescription, yet it took a Charter from *Philip* and *Mary*, and since from *James I.* and is now governed by a Bailiff, and 12 Burgesses. It has an handsome stone-built Market-house, upheld by Pillars; and here is a good Freeschool, and a well-endowed Hospital for decayed Gentlemen. Tho' it has been always accounted an handsome well-built Town, yet the Face of it is now quite altered and improved; for having been almost wholly reduced to an Heap of Rubbish, by a terrible Fire, which happened the 5th Day of *September* 1694. by the mere Accident of a Spark being blown from a Stick, as it was carried across a Lane, to the Damage of 96,000 *l.* it was re-built

built by Act of Parliament, and that in so noble and beautiful a manner, that few Towns in *England* make so fine an Appearance.

The Church and lofty Tower are new-built, except the East-end, which is old, and very good Work. There are many fine Brass Monuments of the Earls of *Warwick*, and others; also one of the Earl of *Essex*, Queen *Elizabeth's* unhappy Favourite; and many Chapels and Confessionaries. In the Chapter-house on the North-side, is a Tomb of the Lord *Brook*. The Castle stands upon the River *Avon* on a solid Rock, from whose Bowels that and the whole Town may be said to have been dug. The Terrace of the Castle, like that of *Windsor*, overlooks a beautiful Country; one sees the *Avon* running at the Foot of the Precipice, from above 50 Feet perpendicular Height; for the solid Rock, from the River on which it stands, is 40 Feet high, but on the North-side it is even with the Town. The Building is old, but has been often repaired and beautified; and 'tis now a very agreeable Structure both within and without. The Apartments are very nicely contrived, and the Communication of the remotest Parts of the Building, one with another, is so well preserved by Galleries, and by the great Hall, which is very magnificent, that one finds no Irregularity in the whole Building, notwithstanding its antient Plan, as it was a Castle built for Strength, rather than a Palace to dwell in for Pleasure.

A Stone Bridge with a dozen Arches is at the Castle; across is a stone-work Dam, where the Water falls over it as a Cascade, under the Castle Wall. It is fenced with a deep Mound, and strong embattled double Walls, and lofty Towers. On one Side the Area is a very high Mount. There are good Apartments and Lodgings next the River, the Residence of Earl *Brook*. The Priory on the North-east of the Town, overlooks a pleasant woody Vale. There are a great many curious original Pictures in the Castle, by *Vandyke*, and other good

good Hands, of Kings, Queens, and other noble Personages, both *English* and foreign.

Wednesday and *Saturday* are the Market-days; and it holds Six Fairs, which are, the first *Saturday* in *Lent*, *May-day*, *Midsummer-day*, *St. Bartholomew's*, *Michaelmas*, and *St. Simon and Jude*. It sends Two Members to Parliament.

A Mile out of the Town, on the Side of an Hill, is a pretty retired Cell, called *Guy-Cliff*. In an old Chapel is *Guy's* Statue, Eight Feet high. The Fence of the Court is intire Rock, in which are cut Stables and Outhouses. They shewed us the rough Cave, where they say the famous *Guy* died an Hermit.

While I was stationed, as I may say, at *Warwick*, I took a Turn about the Country, to view such Places of Note as lay sometimes out of my intended Route. And first, passing a Rivulet, I came to the antient *Tripontium*, placed in a pleasant little Valley, the Sides of which are pretty steep. The Road on the opposite Hill looks perfectly like a Perspective-Scene at the Theatre. This is a *Roman* Station, rightly placed at *Dovebridge* upon the *Avon*, running by *Rugby* to *Warwick*. The Stream here divides into Two, with a Bridge over each. Upon one is a short Inscription in Stone, shewing the Three Counties which repair it.

Near this Place, at *Legers-Ashby* in *Northamptonshire*, has been an old Town, as they say, destroyed by the *Danes*. *Catesby*, who hatched the Powder-plot, owned the Town.

We went on to *Daventry*, a considerable Market-town, governed by a Mayor, Aldermen, Steward, and 12 Freemen. It lies on the great Road to *Chester*, and is consequently a great Thoroughfare, and well furnished with good Inns; for it subsists chiefly by the great Concourse of Travelers that pass that Way. It lies also on the old *Watling-street* Way. The Road

was

was turned to pass through the Town, and runs on to *Dunsmore-beath*, where it crosses the *Fosse*, and one Branch goes on to *Coventry*, and the other joins the *Fosse*, and goes on to a Place called *High-cross*, of which farther anon, where it falls into the old *Watling-street*, and both meet again near *Lichfield*.

It is a most pleasant Curiosity to observe the Course of these old famous Highways, the *Icknild Way*, the *Watling-street*, and the *Fosse*; in which one sees so lively a Representation of the antient *British*, *Roman*, and *Saxon* Governments, that one cannot help recalling those Times to the Imagination; and, though I am confined to such narrow Limits in this Work, yet a Circuit or Tour through *England* would be very imperfect, if I should take no notice of these Ways, seeing in tracing them we necessarily come to the principal Towns, that either are or have been in every County; and likewise in mentioning their Remains, we give some Account of them as in their present State, which falls directly in with my Design.

From *Daventry* we went a little out of the Road, to see a great Camp called *Burrow-hill*, upon the North-end of an Eminence, covered over with Ferns and Goss. Here used to be kept an Horse-race. They say this was a *Danish* Camp, and every thing hereabouts is attributed to the *Danes*, because of the neighbouring *Daventry*, which they suppose to have been built by them. The Road hereabouts too being overgrown with Daneweed, they fancy it sprung from the Blood of the *Danes*, slain in Battle; and that if upon a certain Day in the Year you cut it, it bleeds.

Originally, it seems to have been *Roman*, but perhaps new-modelled by the *Danes*.

In *Norton Town Road* a *Cornu Ammonis* lies neglected, too big to bring away.

At *Weedon* is shewn the Site of King *Wolfhere's* Palace; the *Saxon* Kings of this Province residing here.

The

The Pastures called the *Ashes* are the *Roman Camp*. St. *Werberg*, Daughter of King *Wolphere*, and Abbess to the Nunnery in this Place, had here a Chapel. Abundance of very fine Stone, and many *Roman Coins*, have been dug up. *Weedon* now contains Two Parishes, and has been a Market-town.

Old-Stretford stands on the opposite Side of the *Ouse* to *Stony-Stretford*. In the Fields thereabouts are found many *Roman Coins*.

A little North of the *Horse-shoe Inn*, stood Queen *Eleanor's Cross*, which was pulled down in the Civil Wars.

To the West of *Stretford* stands *Whaddon-hall*, upon very high Ground, affording a most beautiful Prospect. This Manor formerly belonged to the Lords *Grey*; one of whom, a Knight of the Garter, is buried in the Church. Here is the original Picture of Dr. *Willis*, the Progenitor of the present Possessor, with many of his MSS. Letters, Consultations, Lectures, and other Works, unpublished. The Poets *Spencer*, and the Duke of *Bucks*, honoured this Place with their Residence. Still higher stands *Stukeley*. The Church is very intire, though built before the Conquest, in the plain antient Manner.

I now come to *Northampton*, an antient Borough-town, incorporated by King *Henry II.* and confirmed by King *James I.* Several Parliaments have been held here, on account of its healthful and agreeable Situation, besides its being the handsomest Town in all this Part of *England*; but here, as at *Warwick*, the Beauty of it is owing to its Disaster; for it was so effectually burnt down, Sept. 20. 1675. that very few Houses were left standing; and, although the Fire began in the Day-time, the Flame spread itself with such Fury and Speed, that, they tell us, a Townsman, being Two Miles off upon an Hill on the South-side of the Town, saw the Fire at one End of it, just as it began; and before he reached the Town, with

with all the Speed he could, the other End was in Flames also. 'Tis now finely rebuilt with Brick and Stones, and the Streets made spacious and wide. It has Two Hospitals, and a Charity-school well endowed. The Market-place is square and spacious; the Assize-house is built after the *Corinthian* Order. Here are Four Parish-churches, *All-Saints*, *St. Giles's*, *St. Sepulchre's*, and *St. Peter's*. *All-Saints* or *All-Hallows* Church is a pretty Edifice, with a Cupola, and a noble Portico, before it, of Eight lofty *Ionic* Columns. Upon the Balustrade is a Statue of King *Charles II.* It is situated on the North-west of the River *Nyne*, over which there are Two handsome Bridges, and is walled in; and on the West-side are the Remains of an old Castle, upon an Eminence. 'Tis governed by a Mayor, Two Bailiffs, a Recorder, &c. and sends Two Members to Parliament. *All-Saints* Church before-mentioned stands in a Centre, where Four large spacious Streets terminate. The public Buildings are esteemed the finest that can be seen in any County-town in *England*, being all new-built.

The great Inn called the *George*, at the Corner of the High-street, looks more like a Palace than an Inn, and cost above 2000 *l.* building; and so generous was the Owner, that, as we were told, when he had built it, he gave it to the Poor of the Town.

This is counted the Centre of all the Horse-markets and Horse-fairs in *England*, there being here no less than Seven Fairs in a Year. And indeed *Northampton* is reckoned the Navel of *England*. Here they buy Horses of all Sorts, as well for the Saddle as for the Coach and Cart; and hither all the Jockeys from *London* resort to purchase Horses.

Near *Northampton* is the antient Royal House of *Holmeby*, which was formerly in great Esteem, and by its Situation is capable of being made a truly Royal Palace. But the melancholy Reflection of the

Impri-

Imprisonment of King *Charles I.* in this House, and his being violently taken hence again by the Rebels, has cast a kind of Disgrace upon the Place, so that it has been forsaken. The House and Estate was purchased by the late Duchess of *Marlborough*, and is at present possessed by a Farmer, who has pulled down Part of the Out-houses, and converted the remaining Part into Barns, Stables, &c.

A little Way off of *Northampton* is *Naseby*, where the bloody and fatal Battle was fought between the Royalists and Parliamentarians, upon a fine Plain, where at present stands a Windmill; and on it are the Marks of several great Holes, where the Slain were buried; and near this is *Guildsbrough*, so named from a Roman Camp, of a square Form, and deep Ditch, called *The Burrows*.

Towcester is a considerable Town between Two Rivulets, which encompass it almost round. It is an handsome Place, well provided for the Reception of Travelers. It is of large Extent, and very populous: and having but one Parish-Church, which is Two Miles distant from the Hamlet of *Althorpe* and *Foxcoate*, in which there was a Chapel of Ease, but officiated in only once a Month, by the Vicar of *Towcester*, though 'tis computed there are 400 Souls in the said Hamlet, who in the Winter-time cannot attend Divine Service at *Towcester*; and several Benefactions having been given, in case the said Hamlet should be erected into a Parish; for all these Reasons, an Act passed, Sess. 1737. for making the Chapel in the Hamlet of *Althorpe* and *Foxcoate* a Parish-Church, and for appointing a District or Parish thereto; and, according to the Condition of one of the Benefactions, enabling the Master of the free Grammar-school, within the said Hamlet, to be Vicar of the new Parish-Church.

Towcester is a pretty Town, of Roman Antiquity; through which, in a strait Line, runs the *Watling-street*. The Inhabitants of all Ages are here employed in

in a filken Manufacture, and Lace-making. The Town consists of One long Street, and is almost intirely encompassed with Water.

The Seat of the Earl of *Pomfret*, near *Towcester*, is a stately Building, and stands pleasantly, amidst good Plantations of Wood, Vista's, and fine Prospects. In the grand View to the back Front, beyond the Garden, is a large and long Canal: and just below the Gardens, the Meadows, which are of great Extent, lie open to the View of the House; and the River serpentinizing through these, gives a great Beauty to the Seat. Several curious Pictures are in the House. But what is the principal Glory of this Seat, is, the vast Number of *Greek* and *Roman* Marbles, Statues, Busto's, Bas-reliefs, Urns, Altars, &c. Part of the invaluable Collection of the great Earl of *Arundell*, and which are worthy of a Journey through half the Globe to behold. The Hall is a fine lofty Room, and the great Stairs are painted in Fresco by Sir *James Thornhill*.

The House late the Earl of *Sunderland's*, at *Althorpe*, has within these few Years changed its Face to much Advantage. This antient Seat was rebuilt, with great Improvement, by *Robert* Earl of *Sunderland*, Grandfather to the present Duke of *Marlborough*; and is particularly noted for a magnificent Gallery, furnished with a large Collection of curious Paintings, by the best Hands. And in the Apartments below-stairs there is a still more valuable one, of most of the greatest Masters in *Europe*. So that there are very few Collections of Pictures in *England*, better worth the Curiosity of a Traveler than this.

The Park is laid out and planted after the Manner of that at *Greenwich*, and was designed by *Le Notre*, the same Person who planted *St. James's* Park, and *Cassioberry*, as also several other Parks and Gardens in *England*.

There

There is a noble Piece of Water here, on which is lately built a fine Vessel, completely equipped; as his Grace the Duke of *Bedford* has also at his Seat at *Woburn-Abbey*. There are likewise on this Stream a fine *Venetian* Gondola, Canoes, &c. But the Water is too near the House, and occasions so great a Damp, that some of the Pictures in the Gallery are mildewed thereby.

At a convenient Distance from the House is lately built an handsome Square of Offices; and near there is a large Kitchen-garden finely walled and planted, in which is an handsome Building, for the Residence of the Gardener, which is a Model of an *Italian Villa*.

From hence we went North towards *Harborough*, and in the Way, in the midst of deep dismal Roads, the dirtiest and worst in all that Part of the Country, we saw *Boughton*, the noble Seat of the late Duke of *Montagu*, an House built by the first Duke, very much after the Model of the Palace of *Versailles*; the treble Wings projecting, and expanded, forming a Court or Space wider and wider, in proper Stades, answerable to the Wings, the Body of the House closing the whole View.

The Hall is a very noble Room; on the Cieling is a Convocation of the Gods, admirably painted, as are many Suits of Rooms, Staircases, Galleries, &c. beside the great Number of Portraits, and other curious Pictures. The Gardens contain 90 Acres, adorned with Statues, Flower-pots, Urns of Marble and Metal, many very large Basons, with Variety of Fountains playing, Aviaries, Reservoirs, Fish-ponds, Canals, Wilderesses, Terraces, &c. The Cascade is very fine, and a whole River, running through the Length of the Gardens, is diversified most agreeably to complete its Beauty.

The Park is walled round with Brick, and so finely planted with Trees, and in such an excellent Order, that I saw nothing more beautiful, even in *Italy* itself, except

except that the Walks of Trees were not Orange, Lemon, and Citron, as they are in *Naples*, the *Abruzzo* and other Southern Parts of *Italy*.

A Mile off is *Geddington*, where, in a *Trivium* stands one of the Stone Crosses, built by King *Edward I.* in Memory of his Queen *Eleanor*. These are said to be the Places where the Corpse of that Princess rested, and Crosses were erected; *Lincoln*, *Newark*, *Leicester*, *Geddington*, *Northampton*, *Stony-Stratford*, *Dunstable*, *St. Albans*, *Waltham*, *Cheapside*, *Charing* crosses.

On *Willoughby* Side of the Road is an Hillock, called *Cross-hill*, where the Country-people observe an anniversary Festival. *Willoughby* Brook plays in delightful Meanders along a Valley between Corn-fields, with moderate Water, unless raised by Rains. Here several Brass and Silver Coins have been found, and some Gold. The People have a Notion of great Riches being hid under-ground; and there is a vulgar Report that under one *Balk* or *Mere*, that is, Division, between the plowed Fields, there is as much Money as would purchase the whole Lordship; but they dare not dig, they pretend, for fear of Spirits. Mosaic Pavements, Coins, Pot-hooks, Fire-shovels, &c. have been also found.

In *Willoughby* Town is an handsome Cross of one Stone, Five Yards long. The Parliament-Soldiers had tied Ropes about it to pull it down; but the Vicar quenched their Zeal with some strong Beer, after having harangued them concerning its Innocence.

At *Cossington*, near the River *Wrek*, is a vast Barrow, 350 Feet long, 120 broad, 40 high, or near it very handsomely worked up on the Sides, and very steep. It is called *Shipley-hill*, from a great Captain of that Name, who, they say, was here buried. On the Top are several oblong doubled Trenches cut in the Turf, where the Lads and Lasses of the adjacent Village

lages meet on *Easter-Monday*, to recreate themselves with Cakes and Ale.

At *Erdborough* is a strong *Roman Camp*, 800 Feet long, of a delightful Prospect. Near it is a petresying Spring.

But I must not omit, as I had like to have done, the Town of *Wellingborough* in the County of *Northampton*.

It was a large, well-built, and well-inhabited Town, with a fine Church, and Freeschool. A dreadful Fire, which happened here in *July 1738*. has made the Town still more beautiful, though the Occasion was too melancholy to be wished for. It began at a *Dyer's House* in the Town, about Two in the Afternoon, and in the Space of Six Hours consumed near 220 Houses, besides Outhouses, Barns, Stables, &c. amounting in the Whole to upwards of 800, mostly in the South and East Parts of the Town. The Wind being high, and but little Water to be had; the Fire was so fierce and violent, that it seemed to break out at Twenty Places at once; and the Inhabitants were in such Confusion, that but few of them had time to save any Goods, and many only the Cloaths on their Backs. As it happened chiefly among the trading Men and Farmers, the Loss upon them was very heavy. But it was a good deal alleviated by the signal Charity of the neighbouring Gentlemen and others, which saved many of the poor Sufferers from perishing for Want.

In the Month of *March* following this dreadful Fire, another happened at *Findon*, Two Miles from *Wellingborough*, which consumed 16 Houses.

From *Boughton*, we went on to *Harborough*, a good Market-town, and great Thoroughfare, intending to go forward to *Leicester*; but Curiosity turned us West a little, to see an old Town called *Lutterworth*, famous for being the Birth-place of *John Wickliff*, the first Preacher of the Reformation in
England.

England, whose Disciples were afterwards called Lollards.

The Church was lately beautified, and paved with a costly Pavement of chequered Stone; and the Pews are new; and every thing both in Church and Chancel, of thick Oak-planks, Six-square, except the Pulpit, which is preserved on account of its being *Wickliff's*.

Being thus got a little out of our Way, we turned West into the *Watling-street Way*, at *High-cross*, where the *Fosse* crosses it, and which, I suppose, occasioned the Name, leaving *Rugby* in *Warwickshire*, a small Town, noted only for a great Number of Butchers, on the South-west of us. At this Cross we seemed to be in the Centre, and on the highest Ground, of *England*; for from hence Rivers run every Way. The *Fosse* went across the Back-side of our Inn, and so towards *Bath*. Here are divers *Roman* Antiquities: its antient Appellation was *Benonis*. The late Earl of *Denbeigh* (whose Seat is near this Road), and the Gentlemen in the Neighbourhood, erected here a Cross of an handsome Design, but of mouldering Stone, through the Deceit of the Architect. It consists of Four *Doric* Columns, regarding the Four Roads, with a gilded Globe and Cross at top upon a Sun-dial. On Two Sides, between the Four *Tuscan* Pillars, which compose a sort of Pedestal, are these Inscriptions:

Vicinarum provinciarum, Vervicensis scilicet & Lecestrensis, ornamenta, procures patritiique, auspicio illustrissimi Basilii Comititis de Denbeigh, hanc columnam statuendam curaverunt, in gratam pariter & perpetuam memoriam fani tandem a Serenissima Anna clausi, A. D. M.DCC.XII.

Thus translated:

The Noblemen and Gentry, Ornaments of the neighbouring Counties of *Warwick* and *Leicester*, at the Instances of the Right Honourable *Basil* Earl of *Denbeigh*, have caused this Pillar to be erected, in grateful as well as perpetual Remembrance of P E A C E at last restored by her Majesty Queen *Anne*, in the Year of our Lord M.DCC.XII.

The Inscription on the other Side runs thus:

Si veterum Romanorum vestigia quæras, hic cernas, viator. Hic enim celeberrimæ illorum viæ militares sese mutuo secantes ad extremos usque Britannicæ limites procurrunt: hic stativa sua habuerunt Vennones; & ad primum abhinc lapidem castra sua ad Stratam, & ad Fossam tumulum, Claudius quidam cohortis præfectus habuisse videtur.

Which may be thus rendered:

If, Traveller, you search for the Footsteps of the antient *Romans*, here you may behold them. For here their most celebrated military Ways, crossing one another, extend to the utmost Boundaries of *Britain*: here the *Vennones* kept their Quarters; and, at the Distance of one Mile from hence, *Claudius*, a certain Commander of a Cohort, seems to have had a Camp toward the † *Street*, and toward the *Fosse* a Tomb.

The *Watling-street*, measuring from *Chester* through *London* and *Dover*, makes a strait Line with *Rome*. Which seems to have been so contrived by the great Founders, that in traveling upon it, they might have

† The *Watling-street*, simply called *The Street*, by way of Eminence.

the Satisfaction of reflecting, that they were going upon the Line, which led to the Capital of the Empire.

This Road is not passable but just in the Middle of Summer, after the Coal-carriages have beaten the Way; for as the Ground is a stiff Clay, so, after Rain, the Water stands as in a Dish, and Horses sink into it up to their Bellies.

To proceed, we kept the Street-way till we came into *Leicestershire* Road, which we followed North-west to *Hinkley*, a Market-town, situate on an Hill very pleasantly. This Town is noted for a large handsome Church, and an high Spire-steeple all of Stone, in which is a Chime of excellent Bells.

From hence we turned West, and came to *Nuneaton*, an ordinary manufacturing Town, on the River *Anker*, and then Northward to *Atherston*; and so made a kind of serpentizing Tour of it along the Borders of the Two Counties of *Warwick* and *Leicester*, sometimes in one, and sometimes in the other.

Atherston is a Market-town, famous for a great Cheese Fair on the 8th of *September*, from whence the Cheese-factors carry the vast Quantities of Cheese they buy to *Sturbridge* Fair, which begins about the same time, but holds much longer; and here 'tis sold again for the Supply of the Counties of *Essex*, *Sussex*, and *Norfolk*.

Near this Town is a pleasant little Seat called *Mereval*, belonging to Mr. *Stratford*. The House stands on the Edge of a steep Hill, so as to command a View of the Country for several Miles; and from the Parlour there is a Prospect of a rich Vale, scattered into Towns and Woods, so intermixed as to afford a delightful Prospect. In the Gardens of this Gentleman there are a great Quantity of fine Oaks, the Timber of which has been lately valued at upwards of 3000 £.

A little

A little North-west of *Atherston* stands *Polesworth*, formerly a Market-town; but since the Dissolution of a famous Nunnery, which was there, the Market was discontinued.

From *Atherston* we turned East again, into *Leicestershire*, to see *Bosworth-field*, famous for the great Battle, which put an End to the Reign of *Richard III.* and to the long and bloody Contention between the *Red Rose* and the *White*, or the Two Royal Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*; which, as Fame tells us, had cost the Lives of 11 Princes, 23 Earls and Dukes, 3000 Noblemen, Knights, and Gentlemen, and 200,000 of the common People. We viewed the Spot of Ground where the Battle was fought; and at the Town they shewed us several Pieces of Swords, Heads of Lances, Barbs of Arrows, Pieces of Pole-axes, and such-like Instruments of Death, which they said were found by the Country-people in the several Grounds near the Place of Battle, as they had occasion to dig, or trench, or plow the Ground.

Within Three Miles of this Place is an antient Market-town, of the same Name, lying on an Hill, in a very healthy and pleasant Air. The Soil all round it is fruitful, both for Tillage and Pasture.

Hence I passed directly North to *Ashby de la Zouch*, on the Skirts of *Derbyshire*, a very pleasant Town, lying between Two Parks. It consists but of One Street, in which stands a pretty Stone Cross: the Church is large and handsome, and 'tis famous for Four good Horse-fairs in the Year.

The Earl of *Stamford* has a good old Hunting-seat on this Side of the Country, called *Bradgate*, and a fine Park at *Grooby*; but they were too much out of our Way; so we came on through a fine Forest to *Leicester*.

Leicester is an antient, large, and populous Town, containing Five Parishes; 'tis the Capital of the Coun-

ty of that Name, and stands on the River *Soar*, which rises not far from *High-cross*, just mentioned: it is a Borough and Corporation-town, whereof the chief Magistrate is a Mayor, who is assisted by a Recorder, Aldermen, and Common-council. This Town sends Two Representatives to Parliament. Here are Three Markets weekly, well supplied with Provisions. A considerable Manufacture is carried on here, and in several of the Market-towns around, for weaving of Stockens by Frames; and one would scarce think it possible so small an Article of Trade could employ such Multitudes of People as it does; for the whole Country seems to be busied in it: as also *Nottingham* and *Derby*, of which hereafter.

The County of *Leicester* is in part also taken up in Country Business, more particularly in breeding and feeding Cattle. Most of the Gentlemen are Grasiers; in some Places the Grasiers are so rich, that they grow Gentlemen: 'tis not an uncommon thing for Grasiers here to rent Farms from 500 *l.* to 2000 *l.* a Year.

The Sheep bred in this County and *Lincolnshire*, which joins to it, are, without Comparison, the largest, and bear not only the greatest Weight of Flesh on their Bones, but also the greatest Fleeces of Wool on their Backs, of any Sheep in *England*: and hence it is, that these Counties become vast Magazines of Wool for the rest of the Nation. Nor is the Wool less fine, because of the great Quantity; but as it is the longest *Staple*, as the Clothiers call it, so it is the finest Wool in the whole Island, some few Places excepted; such as *Leominster* in *Herefordshire*, the *South Downs* in *Sussex*, and such little Places, where the Quantity is small and insignificant, compared to this Part of the Country; for the Sheep-breeding Country reaches from the River *Anker*, on the Border of *Warwickshire*, to the *Humber*, at the farthest End of *Lincolnshire*, which is near 100 Miles in Length;

and

and from the Bank of *Trent*, in *Lincolnshire* and *Leicestershire*, to the Bank of *Ouse*, bordering on *Bucks*, *Bedford*, *Cambridge*, and *Huntingdon* Shires, above Sixty Miles in Breadth.

These are the Funds of Sheep which furnish the City of *London* with their large Mutton, in such prodigious Quantities. There are indeed a few Sheep of a large Breed, which are brought up from *Romney Marsh*, and the adjoining low Grounds in *Kent* and *Suffex*; but they are few, and indeed scarce worth naming, compared to what are produced in these Counties.

The Horses bred here are the largest in *England*, being generally the great black Coach and Dray-horses; of which so great a Number are continually sent up to *London*, that one would think so little a Spot as this of *Leicestershire* could not produce so many. But the adjoining Counties of *Northampton* and *Bedford* have of late come into the same Business. The chief Supply, however, is from this County, from whence the other Counties rather buy them, and feed them up as Jockeys and Chapmen, than breed them up from their Beginning.

In the South-west Part of the Country, rise Four considerable second-rate Rivers, which run every one a directly contrary Course, in a most remarkable Manner.

1. The *Avon*, which runs by *Rugby*, and goes away to *Warwick* South-west.

Of this River the Poet elegantly sings :

*Yet rolling Avon still maintains its Stream,
Swell'd with the Glories of the Roman Name.
Strange Pow'r of Fate ! unshaken Moles must waste,
While Things that ever move, for ever last.*

2. The *Soar*, which runs by *Leicester*, and goes away to the *Trent*, North-west.

3. The *Anker*, which runs by *Nun-Eaton*, and goes away to *Atherston*, North; and so on to *Tamworth*, West.

4. The *Welland*, which runs by *Harborough*, and goes away to *Stamford*, North-east.

I ought not to omit observing, that as the Town of *Leicester* was formerly very strong and well fortified, being advantageously situated for that Purpose, the River covering it half-way about, so it was again fortified, in the unhappy Civil Wars; and, being garisoned by the Parliament-Forces, was assaulted by the Royalists, who, after an obstinate Defence, took it Sword in Hand, which occasioned a terrible Slaughter. They preserve here a most remarkable Relique of Antiquity, being a Piece of mosaic Work at the Bottom of a Cellar: 'tis the Story of *Acteon*, and his being killed by his own Hounds, wrought as a Pavement in a most exquisite Manner; the Stones are only of Two Colours, white and brown, and very small.

The Castle here, before it was dismantled, was a prodigious Building. It was the Court of the great *Henry Duke of Lancaster*, who added to it 26 Acres of Ground; which he inclosed with a very strong Wall of square Stone, 18 Feet high, and called it his *Novum opus*, vulgarly now *The Newark*, where the best Houses in or near *Leicester* are, and do still continue extraparochial. The Hall and Kitchen of this Place remain still intire, as Testimonies of the Grandeur of the Whole; the former being so lofty and spacious, that the Courts of Justice, which in Assize-time are held there, are at such a Distance, as to give no Disturbance to one another. There are several Gate-ways to enter this Palace; and that which faces the East has an Arch that is deemed a curious Piece of Architecture; over which in the Tower is kept the Magazine for the Militia of the County.

Beneath

Beneath this Castle was a very fair Collegiate Hospital, in the Church whereof, *Henry* Earl of *Lancaster*, and *Henry* his Son, the first Duke of it, were buried: the Hospital was built by the Duke in his old Age, and appropriated for the Maintenance of 100 poor People, in which also he placed a Dean and 12 Canons, with as many Vicars, and other Ministers, and Ten able Women to serve and assist the Poor and Weak. This, with Divine Service therein, doth in some measure still subsist by certain Stipends paid out of the Duchy of *Lancaster*. Another Hospital built by Sir *William Wigston*, in the Reign of King *Henry VIII.* is in a very flourishing Condition there.

Leicester is the *Ratæ Coritanorum* of the Romans. The Trace of the Roman Wall is discoverable without Difficulty, especially in the Gardens about *Senny gate*, with a Ditch, which is very visible. This was repaired by *Edelfleda*, a noble Saxon Lady, in the Year 914. The old Work called *Jewry-wall* is composed of Ragstone, and Roman Brick.

Not far off is a Place called *Holy-bones*, where abundance of Bones of Oxen have been dug up, which were the Remains of the Roman Sacrifices.

At *Leicester* many Roman Coins are found; a Pot full of them was dug up at the Entrance into *Whitefriars*. There are also many great Foundations. At *St. Mary de Pree's* Abbey a Body was dug up, supposed to be Cardinal *Wolfsey's*.

Since its Dissolution it has been made a Dwelling-house, which has nothing left but the naked Walls; and the Spot of the Abbey is turned into a Garden. The only thing worth seeing in it, is a pleasant Terrace-walk, supported by an embattled Wall, with Lunets hanging over the River, and shaded with Trees.

In the Time of the Saxons, *St. Margaret's* Church was an Episcopal See, and was very fine. Here, say some, King *Richard III.* was buried.

Half a Mile Southward from *Leicester*, upon the Edge of the Meadows, is a long Ditch, called *Rawdikes*; on the Banks of which, according to Tradition, King *Charles I.* stood to behold the Storm of the Town. That Prince lay at the Vicarage-house at *Elston*.

South-east of *Leicester* lies *Billesden*, a Market-town of no Note: and further South still is *Hallaton*, another Town noted for its Poverty, in the midst of a rich Soil.

The *Fosse-way* leads from hence through the North-west Part of this County; but, entering *Nottinghamshire*, it inclines North-east, through the Vale of *Belvoir*, or, as it is commonly called, of *Bever*, to *Newark*. In all this long Tract, we pass through a rich and fertile Country, having in our Coast North-eastward the noble River *Trent*, for 20 Miles together, often in our View.

But some Miles North of *Leicester* the River *Wrek*, which comes from the North-east, and the *Soar*, which runs North-west, form a kind of Y; the *Soar* from *Leicester* Southward making the Tail. In the Course last-mentioned, we passed through *Montsorrel* and *Loughborough*, both Market-towns, lying on the *Fosse*, which runs nearly parallel with the *Soar*, and makes one Side of the Y. The first is situate under a great Eminence, and has a good Stone Bridge over the *Soar*; and the other is seated among rich Meadow-ground, and is a fine agreeable Town. And on the *Wrek*, which makes the other Side of the Y, stand *Melton-Mowbray*, a large well-built considerable Market-town, situate in a fertile Soil, almost surrounded with a little River called the *Eye*, over which it has Two fine Bridges; and also *Waltham on the Wold* (i. e. on the Downs), which is but a mean Market-town.

Near *Loughborough* is the Seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of *Huntingdon*, adorned with Wood and Water. The House is old, and not so well situated as could be wished; but the Park is esteemed one
of

of the most beautiful in this County: and the Seat is from it called *Donnington Park*.

Belvoir-Castle, standing within *Lincolnshire*, but on the Edge of *Leicestershire*, is a truly noble Situation, though on a very high Precipice; 'tis the antient Seat of the Dukes of *Rutland*, a Family risen by just Degrees to an immense Height both of Honour and Wealth. I shall mention the House again in my Return out of *Lincolnshire*.

Bingham in *Nottinghamshire* lying in our Way to *Newark*, we passed through it. It is a small Market-town; but is noted for a Parsonage of great Value.

At *Newark* one can hardly see, without Regret, the Ruins of that famous Castle, which through all the Civil War in *England*, kept a strong Garison for the King to the last, and so cut off the greatest Pass into the North that is in the whole Kingdom; nor was it ever taken, till the King, pressed by the Calamity of his Affairs, put himself into the Hands of the *Scots* Army, which lay before it, and then commanded the Governor to deliver it up; after which it was demolished, that the great Road might lie open and free: there are, however, noble Remains of it still; the Walls towards the River being very high and strong.

The Castle was built here by *Alexander* Bishop of *Lincoln*, in the Reign of King *Stephen*; and the Town took its Name from that New Work.

This Town was certainly raised from the neighbouring *Roman* Cities, and has been walled about with their Remains. The Northern Gate is composed of Stones seemingly of a *Roman* Cut: and perhaps they had a Town here; for many Antiquities are found about it. Here are Two fine Stone Crosses. A Gentleman, digging to plant some Trees by the *Fosse* Road Side, discovered Four Urns in a strait Line, and at equal Distances, in one of which was a Brass *Lar*, or

Household - god, an Inch and half long, but much consumed by Rust.

Newark is a very handsome well-built Town, situate on the *Trent*, under the Government of a Mayor, and 12 Aldermen. The Market-place is a noble Square, and the Church is large and spacious, with a curious Spire, which, were not *Grantham* so near, might pass for the finest and highest in all this Part of *England*. The *Trent* divides itself here, and makes an Island, and the Bridges lead just to the Foot of the Castle-Wall; so that while this Place was in the Hands of any Party, as I have before hinted, there was no Traveling but by their Leave; but all the Traveling into the North at that Time was by *Nottingham* Bridge. *Newark* returns Two Members to Parliament.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.





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